

SHARE INTERNATIONAL—Special Information Issue

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EDITORIAL

Maitreya, the World Teacher

For a number of years *Share International* has been a channel for information about Maitreya, the World Teacher: the one expected by Christians as the Christ and in other religions and cultures as the fifth Buddha, as the new incarnation of Krishna, as the Imam Mahdi or as the Messiah.

The process of His emergence into full public life has now entered its final phase; this special information issue of *Share International* seeks to explain this event and to place it within its historical, cultural and philosophical context.

The appearance of a spiritual leader for the whole of humanity (not expected by most to take place yet, or perhaps anticipated in a different way) raises several questions for many, believers and non-believers alike. Both are unconsciously hindered in their response to this appearance by backgrounds which may prevent them from seeing Maitreya in His true function and identity.

This will, perhaps, make it especially difficult for devotees of the various religions to accept Him as He is. They are often bound, to a greater or lesser extent, by the traditional framework of their faith from which it is difficult to distance themselves. What these various religious traditions have in common is the expectation that their spiritual leader (or his successor) will intervene in the flow of history in a most extraordinary manner. Unfortunately, a further common belief is that the members of their particular religion are 'chosen' and that the Teacher will bring to them, and only them, paradise, either in this life or hereafter.

The reality is different. It was their followers, not the Buddha, Krishna, Mohammed, Jesus or Zoroaster, who threw up barriers between faiths and people. The great spiritual leaders in all eras have always emphasized the one, undivided humanity. It was not these teachings but

their incorrect application which led to religious wars, intolerance, inquisitions and separatism.

The key to a better understanding of the work of the great spiritual teachers is that they have always worked together, as members of a group known as the 'Spiritual Hierarchy'. This Hierarchy has always supported humanity on the long path of evolution, unnoticed for the most part, working behind the scenes, but occasionally openly when the time was ripe to reveal an important, new teaching.

Time and time again, these public missions have thrown into confusion a humanity equipped with too little knowledge to fathom or correctly interpret the succeeding events. In particular, announcements by various teachers of a future 'return', and predictions couched in symbolic terms of the conditions which would surround such a happening, have led to much misunderstanding. A good example of this is the difficulty that the Jews had in recognizing and accepting Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah, especially in relation to their firm conviction that he would assert himself as a strong political and military leader. Yet Jesus was the promised new leader — but in a way not understood by Jews or Christians.

A new revelation is not always given by a Master of the Wisdom in person. Use is frequently made of a disciple who has accepted the task of functioning as a vehicle for his Master. Jesus was such an initiate disciple, who for the three years of his mission, from the baptism in Jordan onwards, was 'overshadowed' by his Master, who is also the Master of all the Masters: Maitreya the Christ. Hence Christianity has wrestled for centuries with the question of the dual nature of Jesus, now a Master of the Wisdom Himself. The claim made by Christians that Jesus was the only son of God is therefore incorrect. Everyone is a son or daughter of God, as Jesus said. But most of us are divine only in *potential* and it is the Masters and their most evolved disciples alone who may be called 'Sons of God' in the esoteric sense: people who have brought the divine qualities in themselves to complete unfoldment.

The predictions of spiritual teachers in the past about 'Their' return were pointing, without exception, to the events now unfolding, as the world moves into a new era. Not the 'end of time' but the end of an age and the beginning of a new cycle. This is why Maitreya is now here.

This time He is not working through a disciple as an intermediary but He has come Himself from His ancient retreat — a valley high in the Himalayas. In July 1977 He took up residence in the Asian community in London, where He has subsequently worked, preparing for His appearance before the entire world and as teacher for all humanity — Christians and Jews, Buddhists and Taoists, Hindus and Muslims, and also, to the same degree, those who follow no religion.

Above all, the appearance of Maitreya must not be seen as an exclusive event for ‘believers’, to which non-believers cannot relate. The Masters of the Wisdom and their disciples are not a ‘religious’ phenomenon. They have tried repeatedly to teach humanity the principles of justice and brotherhood, about the need for right human relations, and consequently a correct relationship between man and God. However, the churches have invariably laid emphasis on the mystical element, and at the same time have monopolized the notion of spirituality, claiming it exclusively for the religious field.

The religious path, however, is only one way. The artist, the politician, the scientist, the manual worker, everyone — believer or non-believer — can live a real spiritual life. The deciding factor here is whether or not they are working in the service of humanity.

Maitreya, too, gives the highest priority to service. He points to the inhumanity of a world which forces farmers in America and Europe to reduce production while every two seconds a child dies of hunger; a world in which poor countries groan under the burden of intolerable debts while the industrialized countries spend hundreds of billions of dollars on weapons.

Maitreya will make it clear to us that we face a major decision: either we change the way we relate to one another, taking sharing as our guiding principle, or we continue in our present selfish, competitive way, and destroy ourselves.

We shall have to make our choice in complete freedom: Maitreya is a teacher, an adviser, a guide. It is up to us to decide whether or not to take His counsel to heart. But He has already said that our reaction can be predicted: we *will* choose to implement His teachings. This means that we are at the beginning of a new time: a time of enlightenment, of extraordinary scientific achievement and of right human relationships; a time of a new understanding of that which we call God, and of Maitreya, the Hierarchy and mankind within His Plan.

Messages from Maitreya

During the years of preparation for His emergence, Maitreya gave 140 Messages through Benjamin Creme during public lectures at Friends' House, Euston Road, London. The method used was a process of mental overshadowing, and the telepathic rapport thus set up. The Messages, two of which are printed here, inspired His listeners to spread the news of Maitreya's reappearance and to work urgently for the rescue of millions suffering from poverty and starvation in a world of plenty. Without embracing the principle of sharing and redressing this injustice, Maitreya stresses constantly, there can be no hope of world peace.

For all of this I come

Good evening, My dear friends.

I have taken, again, this opportunity to speak to you, and to establish firmly in your minds the reasons for My return.

There are many reasons why I should descend and appear once more among you.

Chiefly they are as follows:

My Brothers, the Masters of Wisdom, are scheduled to make Their group return to the everyday world.

As Their leader, I, as one of Them, do likewise.

Many there are throughout the world who call Me, beg for My return.

I answer their pleas.

Many more are hungry and perish needlessly, for want of the food which lies rotting in the storehouses of the world.

Many need My help in other ways:

as Teacher, Protector; as Friend and Guide.

It is as all of these I come.

To lead men, if they will accept Me, into the New Time, the New Country, the glorious future which awaits humanity in this coming Age;

For all of this I come.

I come, too, to show you the Way to God, back to your Source;

to show you that the Way to God is a simple path which all men can tread;

To lead you upwards, into the Light of that new Truth which is the
Revelation that I bring.
For all of this I come.
Let me take you by the hand and lead you into that beckoning country,
to show you the marvels, the glories of God, which are yours to
behold.
The vanguard of My Masters of Wisdom are now among you.
Soon you will know Them.
Help Them in Their work.

Know, too, that They are building the New Age, through you.
Let Them lead and guide, show you the way;
and in doing this you will have served your brothers and sisters well.
Take heart, My friends.
All will be well.
All manner of things will be well.
Good night, My dear friends.

May the Divine Light and Love and Power of the One God be now
manifest within your hearts and minds.
May this manifestation lead you to seek That which dwells ever within
you.
Find That, and know God.
(*Message No. 2, 15 September 1977*)

Man must change or die

My dear friends, I am happy indeed to be with you once more, and to
magnetize your aspiration in this way.

My coming evokes in man a desire for change, a desire for betterment,
however expressed.
My energies engender in man divine discontent.
All that is useless in our structures must go.
There are many such which are unworthy of man today.
Man is an emerging God and thus requires the formation of modes of
living which will allow this God to flourish.

How can you be content with the modes within which you now live:
when millions starve and die in squalor; when the rich parade their
wealth before the poor; when each man is his neighbour's enemy;
when no man trusts his brother?
For how long must you live thus, My friends?
For how long can you support this degradation?
My Plan and My duty is to reveal to you a new way, a way forward
which will permit the divine in man to shine forth.
Thus do I speak gravely, My friends and brothers. Hearken well to My
words.
Man must change or die; there is no other course.
When you see this you will gladly take up My Cause, and show that for
man exists a future bathed in Light.
My Teaching is simple:
Justice, Sharing and Love are Divine Aspects.
To manifest his divinity man must embrace these three.
May the Divine Light and Love and Power of the One Most Holy God
be now manifest within your hearts and minds.
May this manifestation bring you to the realization of your part in the
Great Plan.
(Message No. 81, 12 September 1979)

Maitreya's Teaching

In April 1988, a close associate of Maitreya, long established in London's Asian community, contacted freelance journalist Patricia Pitchon. He started a series of briefings in which he presented some of Maitreya's teachings and forecasts of world events with the view that they be published through *Share International* and made available to the world's press. Later, Maitreya's associate also made contact with another journalist who received additional information. Maitreya gives His teachings orally, and His associate conveys it to the journalists. As regular readers of *Share International* will know, each article may cover a wide variety of topics — from a flood in Bangladesh to a lesson in Self-realization. Many of these topics recur again and again, each time adding some new information from Maitreya. For the sake of clarity, therefore, we have edited the excerpts presented here so that teachings on a particular topic are grouped and can flow together.

Maitreya's purposes in releasing this material are further to prepare humanity for His emergence and to help us understand the spiritual laws governing our lives. The forecasts of world events included in many interviews are given out primarily to illuminate one of the most important of these spiritual laws: the Law of Cause and Effect. It is only by grasping and working within this law, Maitreya says, that we can resolve the present social, political, economic and environmental crises.

A new energy pervades the planet

A new energy pervades the planet now. Scientifically, this is the energy which creates equilibrium between positive and negative currents.

When positive and negative currents merge, light is produced. This energizes all life and creates harmony. We will see a new equilibrium in nature, and both people and nature will respond constructively. The sun 'has been brought closer to the earth', symbolically speaking. That is, its radiation has increased, and this will energize the earth.

The energy of equilibrium affects human affairs, as well as the world of nature. Maitreya is using the energy of equilibrium to stimulate the urge towards greater harmony between man and man and between man and nature. Prior to the achievement of this equilibrium there is an inevitable period of adjustment with its attendant difficulties. But through this process, Maitreya teaches, the world's current spiritual crisis will be resolved, and, in Maitreya's words, "this planet will come

Effects on human affairs

Nations around the world have been filled with this new energy, and more and more people are responding to it, becoming more aware, realizing a new livingness and becoming free. When the energy of equilibrium is brought into play, nothing is immune from the transformations which take place.

All these changes are creating awareness, and people have decided that enough is enough: they have a right to be free and to enjoy life. They no longer want to be conditioned by politics, religion or commercialization. It is the younger generation which is experiencing the effects of this new energy, and this gives them the strength to change the old systems which have imprisoned people. Today, the voice of realism is found among the young, free as they are from

ideology, philosophy and theory. They are realistic about life and meet it as it comes.

Current political systems are losing power and credibility throughout the world, and will eventually give birth to new systems of government which will be much more representative. In the new era, the people themselves will come to the fore and be able to express all of their social, political, religious and educational needs. They will express themselves and their compassion through aid to others. Ordinary citizens, intellectuals, educators, and others from a variety of walks of life will find they have a genuine voice in government.

No politician on earth will now be able to repeat past history. The old politics of divide and rule are finished. The divisive art of politics has come to an end, and a new one that respects harmony will soon succeed. The new politics will no longer be moulded by the 'isms' of capitalism or socialism, but created from self-respect in individuals and nations.

The new politician will be an intellectual, an experienced person who knows the laws of evolution and will wisely guide his fellow beings. The process of inculcation, of imposition, by forcing ideologies into the minds of people, is beginning to dissolve, both in religious and in political fields. Consensus will replace it. The voice of the people is already beginning to be heard, and this representative form of government will replace control of the masses through ideology. Everything is moving so fast now that events are beyond the control of the politicians. A new political era has begun. Awareness awakens people to their basic human rights, their liberties and their responsibilities to themselves and each other.

The constitution of every nation will ultimately be based on the three principles of freedom, liberty and salvation. Freedom operates on the individual level, liberty operates on the national level, and salvation operates on the spiritual level.

The reality of global interdependence will become an established fact in our awareness, and as it does so, the fact that 'all men are brothers' will be increasingly translated into structures and practical programmes of action that reflect this reality. Nations can and will experience brotherhood, common goals and common aspirations.

National governments will still be with us in the long term, but responsibility will increasingly be carried by the United Nations, which will become the most powerful political force in the world. It will be

the agency through which all major international problems will be resolved. The United Nations will play a very effective role in making sure that arms and ammunition do not filter through and thereby aggravate conflicts. It will act as an observer and a watchdog. The UN is becoming a powerful centre and is no longer 'just a name.'

All of these changes are taking people by surprise. These are historic times, and as each day passes, a new awareness becomes ever more apparent. People will more and more be talking of peace, of living together in harmony. *This is a turning point in the history of mankind.*

The art of Self-realization

"I have not come to found a new religion," Maitreya says. "I have come to teach the art of Self-realization," something which is neither an ideology nor a religion, but benefits people of all religions and those who have none. "I come to you 'like a thief in the night'", He tells us, "so that you will not become too excited. Slowly, as you become aware, you can 'digest' what is 'eaten'. In awareness you will know Me. In 'isms' you will fight against me".

Looking for Maitreya under titles, even the title of 'the Messiah', can lead to illusion: 'Messiah' is a word coined by the human race, and to say "I am the Messiah," can create opposition." And although some may find the qualities of Jesus in Him, Maitreya says, "Those who look for Me as a Teacher are nearer the mark, for that is what I am".*

The true quality of the Teacher will be seen in the teaching — which is that the Master is within you. In Maitreya's words, "I seek to express that which I am through you; for this I come".*

"I have not come to create followers", says Maitreya. "Each of you should continue to develop within your own religious tradition. A real disciple is one who will respect the traditions. Respect your own religions, your own ideologies, in brief, your own thoughtform, and you will experience the Master. Even when you see me, do not run after me. If you run after me, you will lose me. I cannot be monopolized — I belong to everyone."

"I do not want you to believe in Me. First experience Me within you. When you experience Me then you become aware of My presence within you: it is not a matter of belief first. I do not want you to accept or reject me — it is your inner experience which counts". What you

experience yourself, says Maitreya, is your wealth, the richness of your own Being. The living truth is a matter of experience”.

Do not try to worship Me, Maitreya counsels. If you worship Me you are trying to lower yourself. I do not want this. *I want you to be equal.* You are a spark of the Supreme Being. Do not think you are below Me.

“The Self alone matters,” Maitreya teaches. You are that Self, “an immortal Being.” Suffering is caused by identification with anything and everything which is not the Self. Ask yourself, “Who am I?” You will see that you are identified either with matter (the body), or with thought (the mind) or with power (spirit). But you are none of these. “Mind, spirit and body are the temples of the Lord; the Self *experiences* in these “the supreme Being and Becoming of the Lord.” The Self makes itself known through awareness. The Self makes mind, spirit and body *aware* of reality and thus able to make decisions accordingly. Maitreya says, “Let your awareness grow. Awareness, with intelligence, will guide mind, spirit and body. This will create harmony between mind, spirit and body and the Self.” Then the Self can use the forces of Life to transform things, to effect ‘miracles’. Mind, spirit and body are simply vehicles.

Awareness is the light of life. Anything done outside awareness leads to destruction. All thoughts which lead you to selfishness lead you away from awareness. In awareness there is no memory. Memory is only in the mind. All struggle and care is in the mind, never in awareness. Suffering, depression and craving for drugs are all states of mind. Awareness sets you free and allows you to enjoy life.

Awareness will come to be respected in the home and in the school as a sacred, God-given gift, Maitreya says. *Awareness is the mother of creation.* It can never be divided, nor imposed. Textbooks cannot describe it, because there is no beginning nor end to it. *Awareness can only be experienced.* It is a seed in all creation and in every individual. Awareness is universal and does not ‘belong’ to any religion, nor to any guru, saint or politician.

According to Maitreya, when you judge, saying ‘I am right. You are wrong’, you are caught in the web of attachment. The Self must always practise detachment. In this way, awareness will grow. The Self is neutral and free from suffering. Awareness protects the Self. Just as the body must be bathed, detachment is the “bath” of mind, and awareness

is the “bath” of spirit.

** These words appear also in Messages from Maitreya the Christ, No.10, published by Tara Center, Los Angeles, and received through Benjamin Creme on 8 November 1977.*

The practice of Self-realization

One of the easiest ways to know Me, Maitreya says, is to be honest in your mind; be sincere in your spirit; feed your body with right food; and practise detachment. This will create harmony. When you experience the Self within and come to know you are an immortal entity, completely separate from mind, spirit and body, you learn to use these temples of the Lord creatively, with awareness. Processes of healing follow automatically.

“You have been given mind, spirit and body,” says Maitreya, “to express My Being and Becoming in thought, speech and action.” Any action performed with dishonesty of mind, an insincere spirit and attachment is destructive. For example, when you think one thing, say another, and do something which is different again, you are lost. Honesty of mind leads to honest speech and honest action. This harmony leads to peace and happiness. “Whether you are a thief or a saint,” He counsels, “you can begin right now.”

“Do not surrender your self-respect, your dignity to others. The moment you surrender yourself to some other self you become a ‘zombie’. Do not allow any shadow, even, to possess you”. Maitreya illustrates His point with the following example: “If the personality of an enlightened man falls on a child who is not yet prepared, what happens? The personality of that child is extinguished. The child becomes like charcoal. Apply this to many politicians and their children. The children cannot progress. They have no sense of freedom and are unable to express themselves”. Therefore, “Do not allow anyone to cast his shadow over you. A Master gives experiences, but does not cast his shadow.”

Remain open-minded, Maitreya says. Enjoy life. When you enjoy life you are sitting on the beach looking at the vast ocean. At that moment you experience serenity, tranquility, detachment within. You do not think of your bank account at that moment. Nobody lectures you at that

moment. *The gift of life flowers within you.* Experience this and you will realize you are a unique person. *You are unique in this creation.* To be honest, sincere and detached is to experience oneness with God. But so often this oneness is interpreted by people as loneliness and something to be feared. Yet the feeling of loneliness is the supreme blessing in disguise, says Maitreya, because it shows that a person is approaching oneness with the Lord.

Detachment is the most powerful ‘drug’. It becomes so effective that it immunizes the Self from the processes and proceedings of mind, spirit and body. Without detachment there is no salvation.

Science and technology in the age of Light

We are now entering the age of Light. The Hierarchy is training scientists through experiences of phenomenal powers by demonstrating the use of the science of light to achieve transfiguration, transportation and communication.

All living cells are interconnected, with Light between them. Every atom is interconnected with the Light. The time will come when we can transform this light, and then it will be possible to dematerialize the body. Adepts and Masters can do this, and one day, Maitreya says, we will be able to do it. Matter can be transported from one place to another through light. Thus the astral body of one who has departed can materialize. Even now scientists are being taught how to materialize through the technology of light so that objects can be transmitted from one part of the world to another. This technology — using colour, sound and vibration — is the science of the 21st century. It will make society more prosperous and happy. People will enjoy life more, many diseases will be healed instantaneously. This is the power of light.

In time, scientists will be able to understand these processes, these laws of nature. When you become aware, conscious and detached, Maitreya teaches, you will not manipulate these laws for selfish ends. Environment and energy will be the top priorities of the new era. Last will be defence, “because there will be nothing to defend.” When light is at your command you do not need guns and bullets.

The time is fast coming when there will be no need for prisons, as individuals can be controlled from space. Terrorism will disappear because there will be no place for terrorists to hide.

The ambition of the politicians is now moving into space, from where all movement on earth can be controlled. But Maitreya warns that if the politicians play with this science of light and abuse it, it will destroy them. Humanity has naively believed that they are the only ones in space. But there are others there, far advanced, who have always watched over us, He says, teaching us not to kill, to respect others, and to learn to be happy and free. They have always protected humanity, and they will not allow it to destroy itself by the exploitation of science in space.

Maitreya is sending a clear message to the world's political leaders: no wars can now be won, and spending vast amounts of money on international arms programmes is a complete waste. Our prime task now is to look after the environment. This will become the responsibility of every individual, politician, guru, saint and scientist. Our energies will be spent in making it healthy again. When that happens there will be less suffering, disease and poverty.

Scientists are also being taught by the Space Brothers the art of producing energy through light. The effects of the ozone problem will disappear but the climatic changes that are under way are still bound to take place. Many experiments with the technology of light are being undertaken in Russia. This is because the Space Brothers set up a community in that country 15 years ago. Russia was chosen because it was such a closed society, where commercial pressures did not affect scientific research.

Dangers of current research

Scientists today are involved in researching and manipulating the mechanism of the forces of evolution. They do not know where these forces lead, but they will definitely get a glimpse of the end of the trail. If they persist in experiments with bio-genetic engineering they will be able to create beings which are half-man, half-animal.

But though the scientists are interfering with the natural course of mutation, they will never understand it, for it is beyond knowledge and wisdom.

“Only God understands mutation,” Maitreya says, and for scientists to use their knowledge to ‘play God’ is dangerous. “You are able to do

certain things,” He notes, “but you should not do them. Why do you not spend money rightly so that people can be given the right food to eat, that they may die natural deaths”?

Scientists are also playing dangerous games in other ways. They are searching to find the secrets of consciousness. They are now experimenting with animals, playing with genes to discover where this conscious energy comes from and where it goes after death. So many experiments are being carried out behind closed doors that if the public knew about them there would be an outcry and a demand to end them. “The scientists are playing with the forces of life.” But as scientists deepen their understanding of the laws of life and mind, Maitreya says, there will be a greater understanding of interdependence, *the cement which sustains creation*.

The Law of Cause and Effect

One of Maitreya’s primary concerns is to illuminate the nature of the spiritual crisis of our time. But we cannot understand this spiritual crisis, He says, without a clear consideration of the underlying causes and their effects.

The principle of cause and effect can be understood as a major expression of spiritual law, and to the extent that we learn to recognize and apply this principle, spiritual law is illuminated for us. It is important in this regard to train oneself to perceive patterns. When, for example, a civilian airliner is shot down, it will be found that for no obvious reason one or two other planes are lost; this constitutes a pattern. Nature, like the rest of creation, is composed of atoms; since man-made items such as airplanes are equally composed of atoms, when these patterns are interfered with, crashes are inevitable. Similarly, there are patterns in nature that must be respected. If you disturb these patterns, the elements of nature, the weather cycles, and human beings themselves, become disturbed. Spiritual bankruptcy creates the suffering of disease in the world, while physical disasters such as earthquakes, explosions and murder come about because of ill-health on the mental plane. Life consists of the mind, spirit and body. If the natural evolution of these bodies is retarded or hampered by man-made laws, there are always disastrous consequences. If the body is starved it weakens and becomes sick; if the spiritual body is starved a

person fades and dies; if the mental body is starved a person loses his direction in life.

People whose balance in mind, spirit and body is fragile can be tipped over the edge by the disturbance of atomic patterns. “Motiveless murders” are the result. One of the primary causes of our spiritual crisis, Maitreya teaches, is *complacency* — the root of all evil in the world.

“Wherever there is complacency,” He says, “there is the seed of corruption, chaos, confusion and ultimate destruction”. Complacency is not ‘outside’ us, but inside, a mentality that can be summed up as ‘I’m all right Jack’.

This mentality leads both individuals and institutions to become estranged and disconnected from the realities of life. In this condition one has no vision and can only produce ineffective solutions. When people move in this mental atmosphere of complacency, they are essentially cut off from their real selves and fall into a monotonous routine, ‘the same old thing’ day in and day out. Life is movement, but complacent people are, in effect, in an arrested condition. The mind, therefore, seeks new peaks of experience, which can and often does lead to a variety of forms of corruption and perversion. Thus complacency is ultimately self-destructive, and whole societies can be destroyed by it.

The following are some examples of how human beings have set in motion energies which, under the Law of Cause and Effect, have generated the social, political, and economic effects causing so much destruction today.

Commercialization and market forces

In the last two to three years we have seen a reduction in the wars and conflicts taking place throughout the world as the superpowers withdrew from their policy of supplying arms to further their own foreign aims and interests. The energy which drives soldiers into battle and fills the air with warplanes has been switched off.

But, Maitreya says, that energy cannot just disappear; it has to go somewhere. This energy has been roaming the world and suddenly it has found a new womb: the commercialization created by market forces. Market forces, Maitreya says, are the forces of wickedness, confusion and chaos, and its children are competition and comparison. Freedom is not found in the free play of market forces, for market

forces have no 'eyes'. They are blind, and therefore satanic, leading inevitably to 'mine' and 'more' — that is, to possessiveness and greed — without end. Market forces will bring this civilization as we have known it, to the edge of disaster. Market forces have created social and natural havoc. People have been condemned to death, literally, in the name of profit and loss. Hospitals have been shut because they are not profitable; schools have difficulty in staying open. These institutions are essential for the health and well-being of society.

The new creed of the superpowers has become 'the economy', which is the soul of commercialization. This represents a serious new threat to the world, Maitreya warns, one that could even compromise human life. Commercialization is more destructive than any nuclear bomb. The quality of commercialization is greed, and, in Maitreya's view, commercialization means making money while others starve. It will affect all nations, He says. This negative energy, which recoiled from the battlefield, will create a very hostile world. It is the human mind which has created this force and it can be changed by human awareness. Only Maitreya, however, has the power to turn this destructive energy into a creative force. Commercialization throughout the world is part of the pattern that will result in a major collapse of the world's stock markets, beginning in Japan. After this crash, the first duty of governments will be to feed people with the right food. Their second duty will be to ensure adequate housing. Next will come health and education, and lastly, defence. In short, the crash will lead to a reordering of priorities.

Already, there are many strikes taking place as people begin to question the boss-employee relationship. This is because the new energy is already diluting and sweeping away the master-servant relationship which underlies so much of market forces. You can only solve the problems of the world, Maitreya points out, with a sense of realism that is not clouded by ideology or market forces. "Politicians whose creed is 'market forces'," Maitreya says, "will find that their time is over." Capitalism, in its pure form, is at an end in Europe. It has no future whatsoever. Instead, countries will model their governments on a form of democratic socialism. Gradually this will become the model for all nations as the most effective way to ensure that the voice and will of the people is properly represented. In the new systems, Maitreya says, even market forces will be based on social consciousness. Market forces will not be 'in charge' of social

consciousness. It is social consciousness which will guide market forces.

Violence, crime and drugs

Society as a whole is attempting to emerge from its bondage, and the eruption of crime, corruption, drugs and violence are the inevitable prelude. In the case of violent crime, the Self realizes it is imprisoned in the web of the mind to such an extent that there is no purpose left in life. The vibrations of mind, spirit and body are disturbed, and crimes are committed. The Self is not the perpetrator of these crimes; the perpetrator is the confused mind which has taken over the Self.

It is in cities, Maitreya says, that crime combustion occurs, where people are addicted to drugs, sexual violence, murder and other crimes. This process of combustion brings the dirt up to the surface. Neither the police nor the military, however, will be able adequately to control the outbreak of crime now occurring.

The massive threat posed by drugs cannot be solved through fear of the law. Strong policing will be needed to crack down on the organized gangs of drug producers, but it is not the answer to the individual drug user. Drug addicts are suffering from spiritual starvation, from extreme Self-alienation. Life becomes purposeless and people want to bring their lives to an end, and so they commit slow suicide via drugs. If life has no meaning, then 'meaning' is what must be restored, and for this to occur, it is necessary for the person to experience himself differently, to experience a sense of his own worth. Once that happens, he can grow in Self-awareness.

How can this be achieved? Not through the fear of laws, or by preaching ideology. Not by restricting people's movement, or by extra police or more prison cells. The only answer, Maitreya says, is developing detachment in mind, spirit and body. You must become free from any ism — for that is the deadliest drug. *This can happen only when the Self is given self-respect.* It is like a sponge — it absorbs illusions like water and engulfs the Self. When helping drug addicts it is no use telling them not to take drugs, or sending the police to arrest them. The only way to transform their lives is by teaching them, "Be what you are". They should be taught to practise detachment, even while they are still taking drugs. The next time they take drugs, they will find themselves a little reluctant about continuing their habit until

eventually they will realize that it is the body that is being injected with drugs, and not the Self.

Through awareness and then detachment, habits of all kinds will fall away like leaves in the autumn.

An energy has been released in the world which counteracts negative forces. Eventually, certain judicial reforms will take place, and minor or petty crimes will not lead to prison sentences.

When world tension begins to decrease, when the principle of sharing begins to be implemented through a variety of social, economic and political reforms, people will feel less threatened and there will be less and less crime.

“Those who search for signs will find them...”

Maitreya, Message No. 10, November 1977

In November 1977, in the 10th message He gave through Benjamin Creme, Maitreya pointed out that His presence would be accompanied by “signs”: “Those who search for signs will find them...”

Some 10 years later, in June 1988, Maitreya’s associate indicated that the signs of Maitreya’s presence in the world would continue to increase... “He is going to flood the world with such happenings that the mind can never comprehend it.”

Subsequently, in increasing numbers, reports of ‘miracles’ reached the international media: reports of weeping Madonna statues, healing wells, appearances of the Christ and teachers from other religious traditions. Our staff have collected dozens of such reports, only a few of which are reproduced here.

In Kenya’s capital Nairobi, on 11 June 1988, Maitreya appeared at an open-air prayer/healing meeting. He was photographed addressing (in clear Swahili) thousands of people who instantly recognized Him as the Christ. He departed in as mysterious a manner as he had appeared. Photographs taken at the scene were carried by major news media around the world including CNN. (Sept 88 *SI*; 22 June 88 *Kenya Times*, Kenya)

Since then, Maitreya has made a series of appearances in like manner — that is, appearing (and disappearing) before large gatherings all over

the world. Maitreya's main purpose in making these appearances, mainly to 'hard-line' religious groups, is to 'soften-up' the major opposition before the Day of Declaration.

These appearances are being accompanied by mysterious and miraculous events taking place in the same area. For instance: wells of water in Mexico, Germany and India were charged with healing energy by Maitreya and are now attracting tens of thousands of visitors.

In Tlacote, Mexico, the ranch owner, Jesus Chahin, discovered the healing properties when his injured dog recovered rapidly having drunk the water. After successful tests on his ranch workers, he opened up his gates to the public.

A man who had drunk the water, and had been healed, took numerous photographs of the ranch. On returning home, he had one frame left on his film. Anxious to finish and develop the film, he took a photograph of his new television set. The television was not on; the screen was blank. To his astonishment after the film was developed the last shot showed the television screen with a face upon it: the face of Christ with a crown of thorns on His head.

Crosses of light

Since 1988, a miraculous phenomenon has been witnessed by crowds in various parts of the world: crosses of light suddenly appearing in windows of people's houses, from Canada to Japan and from the Philippines to the USA. The crosses first appeared in El Monte, California, a part of Los Angeles, in May 1988. They appear suddenly, 'activated' by Maitreya, and have a great effect on the people who see them.

Video producer Frances Robinson, who made a documentary on the phenomenon, describes her experiences interviewing those in whose homes the crosses have appeared: "Most of the people we have interviewed about the crosses in their homes are very devout, and most of them are quite poor. Typical was the family of Magdalena and Paulo Robledo, who has five children and lives in a tiny two-bedroom home. There are regular weekly prayer meetings now in the little house at which the participants pray for Christ to appear to them. Those who attend say they feel the spirit strongly in the room.

"Laura, a teenager who had tried to commit suicide and had been a real problem to her family, came to see the Robledos' cross. 'I feel like another person,' she said later. 'It's another life for me. I've changed...

I used to be a real meany to everyone... Now I want to help everyone. I believe in myself and I have hope.'

"The Robledos, as well as several other people we interviewed, said they noticed markedly increased communication between families, resolution of conflicts within families, and a deep peace and strong unity among the people."

The media, although not able to explain the crosses of light, have regularly paid attention to the widespread phenomenon. A short selection of reports:

❑ Hundreds visit the Altadena, California, home of Rev. P.G. Pierce to see the brilliant image of a cross shining through the bathroom window. (1988, *Pasadena Star-News* and *Los Angeles Herald Examiner*, USA)

❑ 4010 Cedar Street in El Monte, California. Police ultimately barricaded Cedar Street as thousands flocked to witness the 'miracle.' (1989, *Pasadena Star-News*, USA)

❑ Up to three crosses appear on the bathroom window at Alejandrina Carmona's home in Montecito Heights, California. Carmona claims that at times she can also see the Virgin Mary, Jesus on the Cross and another image of Jesus as a child. (1990, *Los Angeles Times*, USA)

❑ At the home of Leo and Loretta Alphonso in Violet, Louisiana, there now appears a radiant panorama of crosses, elaborate foot-tall figures that are tapered at the ends and appear set off in the distance. Three of them glow in white and one in gold. Some see a red cross that floats past the others. (1990, *The Dallas Morning News*, USA)

❑ Easter Sunday morning 1991, in Manila, the hand of Maitreya appears in a photograph of a pane of glass which produces a Cross of Light. The hand was not to be seen on the pane of glass itself. (Nov 1992 *Share International*)

❑ Estrella Narvadez reports the appearance of several crosses at the clinic of Dr Benjamin Ching. (26 Sept 91, *Newsday*, the Philippines)

Experiences of Maitreya

Over the years, a number of people have had personal experiences of Maitreya. Following are a few extracts of their reports:

When free lance journalist Patricia Pitchon attended one of Benjamin Creme's lectures in London, she saw Creme's rosy-cheeked face "disappear". In its place, surrounded by a brilliant blaze of white light,

there appeared “a magnificent, unforgettable visage: smooth, golden-brown skin, large dark almond-shaped eyes, set widely apart, a classic medium-sized nose and high cheekbones.” (Sept 83 *SI*, letter) Later, Patricia Pitchon, visiting an Asian-community restaurant with a friend, saw in person the man she had previously seen as a ‘vision’. (2 Dec 84 *The Sunday Times*, UK)

“On 16 March a few minutes after 10 am, a young man materialized in front of me, in the flat I’m living in, in Rennes, (France). I was sitting in front of my desk busy writing, when he suddenly appeared, sitting in the chair facing me, in what seemed to me to be a dense, physical body. Never before had anyone looked at me with so much love. It was as if he was holding me in his arms and at the same time I was free, totally free. A powerful energy emanated from him and left me petrified. I could not move from my chair. I had the feeling that certain things were being imprinted in my mind. Without a shadow of a doubt, it was Maitreya.” (Extracted from a letter from Annick Piers, Sept 88 *SI*)

Sometime between 1983 and 1985 a British TV documentary, being shown in New Zealand, focused on the lives of Pakistani and Indian immigrants in the UK. In one segment, leaders from a spiritual centre revealed to the TV journalist that within their midst they had a “very special teacher”, who they claimed was the reincarnation of Krishna. The journalist’s request to film the teacher was declined on the grounds that the energy emanating from him was much too overpowering for public viewing. On meeting the teacher privately, the journalist confessed to feeling completely overawed by the gaze and presence of the man. Only a back-view of the man appeared on film. He seemed tall and white-robed. (March 89 *SI*, letter from D.E. Darby, Spreydon, Christchurch, New Zealand)

The mysterious hitchhiker

Yet another sign of the presence in our midst of Maitreya: from all over the world, astounded people have reported that a mysterious hitchhiker told them about Christ’s imminent return before inexplicably disappearing from the moving car.

Reports of the mysterious hitchhiker, always dressed in white, appeared again and again in the news, although neither the eyewitnesses nor the media were able to explain the events. In one month in 1990, a New Zealand newspaper, the *Christian Challenge Weekly*, received no fewer than a dozen reports of “angels” taking lifts with Christians and informing them about the imminent return of the Christ before mysteriously disappearing from the car. Traffic officers claimed they had received ‘x’ number of similar reports.

As a result, New Zealand’s Christian community was abuzz with reports of this, to them, mysterious hitchhiker. “The bloke they’ve picked up will say something like, ‘did you know the Lord is coming back?’ and that’s the only thing the fellow says,” wrote journalist Brian Finn who’s been investigating the incidents. “Then he vanishes from the speeding car.” He appeared on several main roads, always to young Christian couples. Some said the stranger was wearing “shining white clothes”, although no one has been able to describe his exact appearance. Two articles in *New Truth*, a New Zealand newspaper, discussed the hitchhiker among a number of other possible ‘miracles’ signifying the presence of Christ in the world.

Similar stories were reported from many other places. In 1991, while driving in Dallas, a two women picked up a hitchhiker who told them that the Christ is in the World. He then disappeared from the back of the car. Seven other similar cases were phoned in to a local radio talk show.

Numerous people driving on the Natchez Trace (between Natchez, Massachusetts, and Nashville, Tennessee, in the USA) reported picking up a hitchhiker who claimed to be Jesus and then disappeared. Park rangers said there were many similar reports.

A member of the Dutch Reformed Church heard the story at his Bible class: a motorist picks up a hitchhiker along the motorway. A conversation develops on spiritual matters and the subject of the future Kingdom of God crops up. The hitchhiker announces that Jesus will appear again soon and disappears in the same way as at the supper at Emmaus. The motorist is so shaken by the experience that he parks his car on the hard shoulder to recover from the shock. Here he is approached by some traffic policemen to whom he tells the story. Their reply, according to the Dutch Christian daily newspaper *Trouw*: “You are the eighth motorist who has told us this.”

In Australia in February 1992 there were reports of the hitchhiker being given several lifts just north of Sydney. In the usual way, having announced that the Christ is in the world and that they would see Him soon, He disappeared from the cars.

“Spiritual revival”

With its July 1991 cover story ‘Do you believe in miracles?’ *Life* magazine became one of the first mainstream media sources in the US to acknowledge the thousands of unexplained ‘miraculous’ phenomena that have been occurring world-wide.... “I did a little digging,” said Peter Bonventre, senior editor of *Life*, “and it turned out there’d been a rash of sacred apparitions all over the world. There was also a boom in religious book sales.” Then he wondered: “Are Americans turning to spiritual values as a reaction against the greed binge of the 80s? I think so. And along with the fall of Communism, there’s been a resurgence of the spirit in Eastern Europe too. There’s a world-wide spiritual revival, and it’s one of the great stories of our time.” (Sept 91 *SI*, from July 1991 *Life* magazine, USA)

Photo Captions:

Appearance of Maitreya in Nairobi, Kenya

photo: Kenya Times

Crosses of light

photo: Frances Robinson

Queuing to collect the healing water of Tlacote, Mexico

This is one of the many photographs of clouds taken usually from an aeroplane by different people at different times, which when developed show this type of picture of the Christ, superimposed on the background sky

Maitreya’s mission

by the Master – –, through Benjamin Creme

*A unique feature of **Share International** has been the regular articles provided by Benjamin Creme's Master, one of the Masters of Wisdom of the Spiritual Hierarchy who lives in the Himalayas and works closely with the Christ.*

His articles throw light on the New Age civilization in all its aspects. He calls for service and sacrifice in order to bring about a society based on justice and sharing.

The son of man

Many people await the return of the Christ with trepidation and fear. They sense that His appearance will promote great changes in all departments of life. His values, they rightly assume, will necessarily alter their ways of thinking and living and they blanch at such a prospect. Besides, so mystical has been the view of the Christ presented down the centuries by the churches that many fear His judgement and omnipotent power; they await Him as God come to punish the wicked and reward the faithful. It is sadly to be regretted that such a distorted vision of the Christ should so have permeated human consciousness. No such being exists. In order to understand the true nature of the Christ it is necessary to see Him as one among equal Sons of God, each endowed with full divine potential, differing only in the degree of manifestation of that divinity.

That He has achieved the fullness of that divinity is His Glory, and well may we stand in reverence at this achievement. That this same achievement is rare indeed is also indisputably true. But the wonder of the Christ for men is that He was one of them. Naught there is, in the trials and sufferings of men, but He did know it. Each step of the path that men still tread has He painfully trodden. Nothing is there, in the whole panorama of human experience, that He has not shared. Thus truly is He the Son of Man.

There can be little doubt that were He to appear unannounced in our midst few would recognize Him. So far from the general notion is He that He would pass unnoticed in the crowd. Thus it is today among His brothers as He awaits man's invitation to begin His mission. Many who see Him daily know Him not. Others recognize Him but are afraid to speak. Still others wait and pray, hopeful that He may be the One for whom they dare not hope. Only His Declaration before the world will establish Him in the sight and hearts of men.

While we await that Day of Days, let us clarify in our minds the reasons for His return. Let us understand the nature of the task which He has set Himself. To establish in our midst the fact of God has He come. To recreate the Divine Mysteries is He here. To teach men how to love, and love again, is He among us. To establish man's brotherhood does He walk the Earth once more. To keep faith with the Father and with man does He accept this burden. To usher in the new age has He returned. To consolidate the treasure of the past, to inspire the marvels of the future, to glorify God and man has He descended from His high mountain.

Let us look at His priorities: the establishment of peace; the inauguration of the system of sharing; the removal of guilt and fear — the cleansing of the hearts and minds of men; the education of mankind in the laws of life and love; an introduction to the Mysteries; the beautification of our cities; the removal of barriers to travel and interchange of peoples; the creation of a pool of knowledge accessible to all.

That such a task is not an easy one, not even for the Son of Man, is clear. Ancient habits of division and separation have strong roots, while fear and superstition cast their spell over millions of mankind. But never before, in the history of the world, has a Teacher come better equipped for His task. Maitreya has come to do battle with ignorance and fear, division and want. His weapons are spiritual understanding, knowledge and love; His shining armour is Truth Itself.

Maitreya's mission

It is not long until the world will see the Christ. Despite appearances, His mission is proceeding well and many are the changes which His presence has invoked. There are those who doubt His presence in the world. This is natural; only when His face is seen will the doubters believe. Thus has it always been. Many await Him in the hope of miracles. Many look for His succour and support. Forgoing the miracles of yore, He will address Himself to the problems of the age: hunger and poverty, war and want. When you see Him, you will see a Man who has given Himself to God. In so doing, He has become a God. So complete is His identification with the Source that naught stands between Him and that Divinity.

Remember, when you see Him, that no law commands His presence and return. Responding only to the call to service and sacrifice, He once again shoulders the burden and invests it with joy.

Repeatedly, He has called for your support. Not seldom has He asked you to make known His presence. Were you to fulfil this request, the world would the better be prepared for His appearance. Sad it is that those who long the most act the least.

For the first time in history the whole world will see and know the Teacher. For the first time, together, men will salute the Messenger of God. When they know Him, they will find Him to be a wise counsellor, a true brother and friend. Take heart from this promise, for the day is not far off when men's anguish will be assuaged. Take heart from this promise, for the tide is turning in favour of the Light.

Knowledge of God is essential to man's progress, but God can be known in many different ways. Today, your scientists are presenting facets of God's nature hitherto unknown, and find themselves at variance with the teachings of the churches. The time has come for the churches to re-examine these teachings in the light of the new knowledge now available to man. When they do this, they will find much to discard and much to re-interpret. Only then will the mausoleums of outmoded doctrines and dogmas, which the churches are today, become vibrant conveyors of the truth of God.

In this re-assessment, the Master Jesus will play an important part. His is the task to reconstruct the Christian groups along more fruitful lines and to prepare them for their role as centres of teaching and healing. In this He will work closely with the Christ, but Maitreya's mission will embrace all aspects of men's lives. His energy and inspiration will stimulate every field and men will know Him for the World Teacher that He is. Under His guidance, men will refashion the world along more just and spiritual lines and thus begin their ascent to the mountain top of achievement.

**The teachings of the Christ
and life in the New Age**
by Benjamin Creme

We are about to witness profound changes in all our institutions and structures — political and economic; religious and social; scientific,

educational and cultural. These changes will take place as humanity grasps, stage by stage, its essential Oneness, and adopts the measures necessary to implement that Oneness.

The first human priority is the saving of the millions now starving to death in the Third World. To alleviate their plight a crash programme of aid on a world scale will be needed. No effort should be spared to ease the distress now being suffered in some of the poorest areas.

There is nothing more urgent or important to do in the world today. All else must follow this primary human necessity.

The solution is obvious: sharing the resources of this plentiful world is the essential first step into right relationship. The Christ will make this clear and inspire humanity to act towards this end. His call for sharing and justice as the only way to true peace (and therefore to the continuance of the race and the saving of the world) is essentially a call for the establishment of right human relations and the renunciation of the manifestly wrong relationships in the world today: the competition and greed, individually, nationally, and internationally; the hatred and violence, world-wide and potent as never before; the separativeness and exclusiveness, the fanatical adherence to one's own ideal; all the bitterness and distrust which has brought us to the edge of self-destruction.

Economic changes

The Christ calls for the acceptance of the principle of sharing through the redistribution of the world's resources — the food, raw materials, energy and technological expertise, largely usurped (and wasted) today by the developed nations.

When we have accepted the principle of sharing (which principle will be forced on the governments by world public opinion) each country will be asked to make over, in trust for the world, that which it has in excess of its needs. Every country will be invited to make an inventory of its assets and needs. Fed into computers, these statistics will provide a United Nations Agency — set up for this purpose — with the information on which to base a plan for the rational redistribution of the world's resources. In this way a better balance between the developed and underdeveloped world can be achieved. It has been estimated that the redistribution programme will take two to three years to implement. The plans and blueprints for this scheme, drawn up by high initiates — economists, financiers and industrialists of great achievement — have

long been in existence, awaiting only the demand of humanity for their implementation. A sophisticated form of barter will replace the present economic systems.

There is no doubt that there will be opposition from those more privileged members of society who will see, in the changes which must take place, a loss of their traditional status and power; but the need for change will become so overwhelmingly obvious that they will find themselves increasingly powerless to halt the momentum.

For several years, in five major centres (New York, Geneva, London, Darjeeling and Tokyo) groups have been trained by a Master in the precise legislation which will change our present chaotic political, economic and social structures along more rational (and more spiritual) lines. With the minimum of cleavage, the minimum disruption of the existing social fabric, far-reaching changes can be expected over the coming years. The democratic system will still hold, and will be seen to be right and effective when it is for the first time directed truly to the common good. The participation of *all* sections of society in the construction of the new social order will ensure the speedy adoption of the measures necessary for its implementation.

The key to a more harmonious political climate is the acceptance of the principle of sharing. Both the democratic and the communistic systems are in process of transition, and as they evolve they will become less mutually exclusive than they now appear to be. Greater world harmony will result. The United Nations Assembly will come into its own as *the* international legislative body. The work of the UN Assembly is inhibited today by the lack of support given to it by the major powers, in particular the US and Russia, and by the existence of the Security Council with its power of veto. The Security Council has outlived its usefulness and now must make way for the more broadly-based voice of the UN Assembly to be heard. The UN is the blueprint for a future world government of federated independent states. It is not part of the Divine Plan that the nations should live under one political system. Democracy and communism are each the expression, more or less distorted, of a divine idea. In their eventual perfect expression each will give to the world a model of social organization suited to different people in different circumstances. Unity in diversity may be said to be the keynote of future political groupings.

New approaches to work

Already, profound changes are taking place in the industrialized world with the advent of micro-technology. More and more, machines, ever more sophisticated, will take over the means of production. Today's problems of unemployment will become the problems of leisure. Education for the right and fullest use of leisure will be of paramount importance. Eventually, all the artefacts of our civilization will be made by machines, thus freeing man for the exploration of his true nature and purpose. In time, these machines will be made by an act of man's creative will; we have, as yet, scarcely touched the surface of the potential of the human mind.

The immediate need is to transform work processes to free from mechanical drudgery the countless millions who now know no other meaning in their daily work: *"Let me take you into a world where no man lacks; where no two days are alike; where the joy of Brotherhood manifests through all men."* (Message from Maitreya, No. 3).

The advent of the Christ and the emergence of the Masters of Wisdom will bring an enormous sense of relief and reduction of tension in the world. The gain in physical and emotional well-being will be considerable. Much of the physical disease in the world today has a psychic cause: the strains, the tensions and fears inherent in our divided society and world. Given true hope for the future, the general health of humanity will improve.

Quite apart from this, new approaches to discovering the causes of disease will be made. The existence of the etheric planes of matter, i.e. matter finer in substance than gas and normally invisible, has long been postulated, and accepted by esotericists as axiomatic. This is the next area of matter due for investigation by our exoteric scientists. Kirlian photography and the work of Wilhelm Reich have already pointed the way. It will be realized that the health of the physical body depends entirely on the etheric 'double' or 'counterpart-body'. The force centres (or 'chakras' as they are called in the East), which focus the etheric flow, have their counterparts on the dense physical plane in the major and minor glands of the endocrine system. We are just beginning to understand how important to our well-being is the correct, interrelated functioning of the endocrine system. This in turn is dependent on the proper functioning of the vital etheric body which substands it.

The alternative, so-called 'fringe' medicines of today (they are really very old indeed) will take their places beside the more orthodox

methods. Teams of doctors and healers of various disciplines will work together, bringing their particular insights and gifts for the greater benefit of the patient. The Masters are, without exception, adept in the esoteric healing arts, exemplified so dramatically by the Christ in Palestine. Their inspiration and guidance will quicken the pace of experiment and discovery and lead to results undreamt of today. There is, parallel to the human, another great evolution, the Angelic (or Deva, as it is known in the Orient), which has much to give and teach humanity in connection with disease and its cure. In the not too distant future, very real contacts will be made between the two evolutions which will result in a great expansion of man's awareness of his true nature and of his place in the scheme of things. This whole subject is so deeply esoteric and abstruse that only the briefest mention of it can be made here.

Certain diseases, like syphilis, tuberculosis and cancer are endemic in humanity and unbelievably old. It will take a long time to rid the world entirely of these scourges, but, eventually, it will be done. And, in the meantime, enormous strides will be made in their control and in the amelioration of their effects, as is already the case with tuberculosis. The universal adoption of cremation as the only hygienic method of restoration to the earth of the body after death will speed this process. For countless ages, through burial, diseases of the physical body have been absorbed into the earth to be reabsorbed in vegetable and animal tissue. This has occurred for so long that the earth itself is contaminated.

One of the most profound changes which will take place will be in our approach to death. Man will lose his fear of death. Humanity will come to accept and understand the law of rebirth; that the death of the body is but the transition to a new and freer state; that the soul in its long journey in incarnation takes vehicle after vehicle through which to reflect itself on the physical plane. Death will lose its terror. When the body is old and depleted in strength, death will be cheerfully sought as the doorway to renewal and further experience.

Law of Karma

The Christ will affirm the slow, gradual evolution of man through the process of reincarnation or the Law of Rebirth, and through his understanding of this Law and its relation to the Law of Cause and Effect (called in the East, the Law of Karma) will come the sure basis

for the establishment of right human relations. We will come to understand that our thoughts and actions from moment to moment set in motion causes, whose effects make our lives what they are, for good or ill. So we will see the need for harmlessness in relation to others, a harmlessness based on the will to good, expressing itself as goodwill. The Christ will proclaim the truth that the 'Kingdom of God' exists on earth, and has always existed, in the fact of the Spiritual Hierarchy of Masters and initiates, and that one day, through His agency, all His people will be members of that Kingdom. The esoteric process and experience of initiation, known today by thousands of disciples, will, in the coming age, become the conscious, exoteric experience of millions more. The Ancient Mysteries will be restored, and man will know himself as the Divine Being that he is.

All people, eventually, even those not engaged in the religious field, will share the sense of a spiritual basis to life, will endeavour, in whatever field of human activity they may be engaged, whether political, scientific, educational or artistic, to give expression to this sensed inner truth, and will build a culture and civilization which will directly reflect their experience that God, Nature and man are One. Then revelation will follow revelation until we will find ourselves in possession of that knowledge which will open for us the secrets of life itself and will allow us to become conscious creators and co-workers with God. This will be possible when man's will and God's Will are one and the same. A creative interplay between God and man can then take place, and the true nature and purpose behind the human evolution will become apparent.

This will lead to the creation of the Divine Science known only to the Masters of Wisdom. One day, through man himself, this science will become the instrument whereby the forces of the universe can be harnessed and utilized in the service of the Divine Plan, to further the evolution of all kingdoms in nature. Under the guidance of the Hierarchy of Masters, man will find himself able to control forces and energies of which today he is totally unaware, and of which today he is totally at the mercy. He will be able to transcend time and distance by the power of his thought and to create modes of travel so silent and apparently motionless that fatigue will disappear. Through the power of sound he will build his artefacts and control his environment.

Naturally, all this depends on our ability to surrender our little separate will and bring it into line with the Divine Will and Purpose. It is to this

end that the Christ and the Masters will work. Theirs is the task so to lead and guide that we willingly, gladly, make this surrender ourselves, in the light of our own soul's vision of the scope and majesty of the Plan.

A new era of peace and goodwill is dawning in the world. Nothing can now prevent the inauguration of this era of tranquility and equilibrium. The cosmic forces released into the world by the Christ are definitely making themselves manifest on the physical plane, and will continue to do so in ever-mounting potency. These forces will lead to results which at the moment seem to be impossible of achievement. More and more, these energies will condition the ways of our thinking and feeling, and will lead eventually to that desired state of fusion and synthesis which will be the keynote of the Aquarian age. Then we will recognize the fact for so long hidden and unmanifested: that humanity is One, part of One Life.

Photo Caption:

At the beginning and end of every lecture, Benjamin Creme is overshadowed by Maitreya who transmits His energies through him to the audience. Many people report having seen Creme surrounded by a brilliant halo of light, or even to 'disappear' behind a golden radiance which fills the room. This is the result of the energies released by Maitreya during the overshadowing process and for many people this provides proof of the validity of Creme's statements. This phenomenon would seem to have been captured on film. The photographs are two of a series, the left hand picture being taken only moments before the right. Unfortunately the golden energy of the original colour photograph is lost in this black and white reproduction.

**Evolution of humanity
began over 18 million years ago**
by Aart Jurriaanse

The history of mankind is much older than is generally accepted. The ageless wisdom teachings postulate that it is not less than 18.5 million years since the individualization of animal-man. The following article is a brief summary of some of the most significant developments in his

evolution.

About 21 million years ago animal-man made his appearance on the world scene, as a separate species in the animal kingdom. These specimens were as yet mindless, and thus should still be regarded as animals, but with the physical build and appearance of primitive human beings.

Some 2.5 million years later, or 18.5 million years ago, a group of Beings from other planetary schemes, in particular from Venus, were brought to Earth, to assist in arousing the mind principle and leading to the individualization of animal-man. This band formed the nucleus of those superior Beings who subsequently became known as the White Brotherhood or the Hierarchy of Masters of Wisdom. Their headquarters was established on etheric levels, and is referred to by esotericists as 'Shamballa'. Although located in the etheric realm, Shamballa is recognized as occupying a definite position in space in the Gobi desert.

After a further lapse of 1.5 million years, or about 17 million years ago, it was decided that more effective results would be obtained if representatives of the Brotherhood were to function in dense material bodies on the physical plane, thus enabling them to serve as practical guides and leaders of the evolving race. The first outpost of the fraternity was established at a place then known as Ibez, located somewhere in the central regions of South America. Aeons later, remnants of this original culture were still traceable in the ancient Maya institutions. A second branch became rooted in Asia, giving rise to among others the appearance and work of the Himalayan and Southern Indian Adepts. In this connection the Master Djwhal Khul, known as the Tibetan, prophesies that at some future date much of the mystery still enshrouding pre-history in general, and the early history of the Near East, the Gobi desert and Central Asia in particular, will be revealed with the discovery of certain ancient monuments and records. Some of these will be found above ground, and others in subterranean fastnesses where many of these archaic chronicles are still intact and have been safely conserved as convincing testimony to the truth of these ancient historical facts.

Historically the original race of men became known as Lemurians, named after their country Lemuria, situated somewhere in the region

now occupied by the Pacific Ocean, and probably also including parts of both North and South America.

After a protracted period of some three million years of slow development, the greater part of Lemuria was destroyed by volcanic action and disappeared below the seas, leaving only a number of smaller islands where once there had been a vast continent. Some remnants of the race escaped, however, to become the founders of the future Atlantean race, which originated about 12 million years ago.

Where Lemuria lay to the west of the Americas, the continent of Atlantis was situated mainly east of these continents, comprising a region now mostly covered by the Atlantic ocean, and stretching far out from the Americas towards Europe and North Africa.

Little detailed knowledge of these two early human races is available, but a general description can be given of the various stages through which they evolved. The spark of mind, the first distinctive attribute of the soul, which served to lift the Lemurians from the animal into the human kingdom, remained for long somewhat dormant. In the course of time, this gradual awakening produced men still largely retaining their animal tendencies. Only the primitive forms of emotion, such as sexual desire and fear of physical pain, were as yet apparent.

The awakening of the principles of desire and emotion indicated the approach of the Atlantean phase, when man no longer remained satisfied with simple physical or animal existence. In those early days of Lemuria and Atlantis the primitive masses were led by their priest kings, assisted by Adepts, initiates and disciples, the direct descendants of the former White Brotherhood, who still formed the only real source of intelligent and spiritual guidance. The Hierarchy finally came to the decision to withdraw its representatives to etheric levels. As happened previously with Lemuria, the destruction of Atlantis, including most of its population, occurred by cataclysmic convulsions of the earth's crust, and the subsequent submergence of the greater part of the continent.

According to H.P. Blavatsky in *The Secret Doctrine* this inundation of the mainland of Atlantis took place several million years ago. A few large islands were, however, allowed to survive the disaster, and these provided a sanctuary for some favoured and more advanced groups who were spared to serve as points of nucleus for the partial restoration and regeneration of the race and to permit man's evolutionary process to proceed without undue interruption.

About 98,000 years before our present time, the larger part of these islands were in their turn swallowed by the seas, leaving only one relatively small remnant “West of the Pillars of Gibraltar”, which Plato referred to as Poseidonis (or Atlantis). This remaining fragment finally also disappeared below the waters 15-16,000 BC, but not before a number of survivors had been allowed to escape and to introduce civilization where they settled, in parts of what today are known as Europe, the Mediterranean regions, and the Near and Middle East. It is this submergence of Atlantis which gave rise to the symbolic biblical chronicle about the Deluge and Noah’s Ark.

Jesus of Nazareth and Maitreya the Christ

by Peter Liefhebber

Jesus of Nazareth and the Christ are *not* one and the same person. This is one of the most difficult claims for many Christians to accept in connection with Maitreya, the World Teacher, and it therefore requires some further explanation.

In fact, the title ‘Christ’ does not refer to an individual at all. It is the name of a function in the Hierarchy of Masters of Wisdom, that group of advanced beings who guide the evolution of humanity from behind the scenes.

Whoever stands at the head of this Hierarchy automatically becomes the World Teacher, known in the East as the ‘Bodhisattva’, during the term of His office. Maitreya, Who embodies the energy we call the ‘Christ Principle’, has held that office for over two millennia, and in Palestine He manifested Himself as the Christ to inaugurate the Age of Pisces, then beginning. The method He used is called spiritual overshadowing, that is, His consciousness informed and guided the actions and teachings of His disciple Jesus. It was therefore the consciousness of the Christ, Maitreya, which was seen and experienced by those around Jesus.

Fourth-degree initiate

In reality Jesus was a fourth-degree initiate and one of the older disciples of the Masters of Wisdom. He appeared before in biblical times as Joshua, the son of Nun, then as Isaiah and again as Joshua in the book of Zachariah. In Palestine he made the great sacrifice of

allowing himself to be used by Maitreya to fulfil His mission during the three years following the Baptism in the River Jordan. During his life, Jesus also symbolically enacted the five initiations which lead one to Mastership. The experience on the cross was the enactment of the 4th initiation for Jesus (his birth, the baptism, and the transfiguration on the mount symbolize the first three), while at the same time Maitreya underwent a higher initiation. The events from Jesus's life and his words have been greatly misinterpreted due to this little-understood connection between his work and that of Maitreya the Christ. This has given rise to the age-old theological point of contention — namely, whether Jesus was God or man, or perhaps both together. The answer is that Jesus was a man who, as a result of the process of evolution, became a Son of God — as does everyone eventually. Others had gone before him on that path and many have taken it since. Christians who are of the opinion that it is not given to anyone to try and emulate Jesus' accomplishment (who, as far as they are concerned, is 'God' or, at least, His only Son) are contradicted by his own words: "Become perfect even as the Father in Heaven is perfect." — and: "Greater things than I have done shall you do."

Jesus's death was the fulfilment of the task for that life and it was Maitreya who resurrected the body from the tomb (as a symbol for the 5th initiation, just as the 'ascension' was symbolic of the 6th initiation). This presentation of ancient occult knowledge in symbolic form is one of the methods which the Spiritual Hierarchy uses to teach humanity, and to convey knowledge to "those who have ears to hear and eyes to see". In the lives of the Buddha, Mithra and Krishna, similar symbolic events can also be found. The famed labours of Hercules, too, are nothing less than part of the initiation process expressed in symbolic form.

The disciple Jesus of 2,000 years ago has by now become one of the most senior Masters in the Hierarchy: the Master Jesus. He reached His state of perfection in the course of His next life as Apollonius of Tyana. Many of those who followed Him during His life as Jesus were still alive during this subsequent incarnation — and many of them became convinced that Jesus had reappeared in their midst. It was Apollonius who undertook a journey to India which became the basis for the story, which many believe, that Jesus did not die on the cross but went to India and died in Kashmir, having lived to a venerable old age.

The Master Jesus has been incarnate in a Syrian body for about 640 years; He is described in *Initiation, Human and Solar* by Alice A. Bailey (published by the Lucis Trust) as follows: “He is rather a martial figure, a disciplinarian and a man of iron rule and will. He is tall and spare with rather a long thin face, black hair, pale complexion, and piercing blue eyes.”

During most of this time he has lived mainly in Palestine. Since 1984, however, He has lived in Rome. The intention is that He will try to raise the Christian churches out of their state of crystallization and rivalry and, if invited to do so, lead a newly united church. By so doing, He hopes to resolve the many contradictions and misunderstandings which have arisen during the course of the centuries about His historic role and the teachings which He then disseminated as a vehicle for Maitreya.

In the Hierarchy He is described as “The Great Leader, the General and the Wise Executive”. *Initiation, Human and Solar* says of Him: “No-one is so closely in touch with the people who stand for all that is best in the Christian teachings and no-one is so well aware of the needs of the present moment.”

Major role

With the emergence of Maitreya the Master Jesus is, for the second time, playing a major role in carrying out the Christ's purpose, as also are the Apostles Peter and John. Two thousand years ago they were third-degree initiates; now they have been entrusted with a significant aspect of completing the Plan as the Master Morya, and the Master who will succeed Maitreya as the Christ during the next era (in about 2,500 years), Koot Hoomi. This open collaboration, which will be visible to all, will end any lingering doubts concerning the true relationship between Maitreya the Christ and His disciple, the Master Jesus.

Thus the seemingly paradoxical claim that Jesus and ‘the Christ’ are not the same person in the literal sense of the word, is more reasonable than it would appear. Those Christians who find it difficult to accept that ‘their’ teacher is not the highest leader of all humanity may, however, take solace in a second paradox: Jesus and Maitreya the Christ were (and are) one, in the sense that They, each on His own level, work together in perfect concord to further the Divine Plan.

The gospel story and the path of initiation

by Benjamin Creme

The evolutionary journey on which we are engaged is marked off by five major points of crisis, major expansions of consciousness, which are the five steps to Liberation and Mastery. These are the five planetary initiations which free us from further incarnational experience on this earth. All the Masters have taken these five initiations (some have taken further, higher initiations) and Their presence in this world is the result of a conscious decision to serve the Plan of Evolution and not from any need (through personal karma) to incarnate.

The esoteric process we call initiation is an artificial forcing process, introduced into our planet in mid-Atlantean times to speed up the evolutionary process. Without it we would inevitably arrive at the same point of development as we evidence today, but it would take millions of years longer to do so.

In those far-off days, a crisis occurred in a part of this solar system which required the presence of some of the most advanced members of the Hierarchy of this planet who at that time came from Venus. The process of initiation was therefore introduced to enable the most advanced members of our earth evolution to undergo this forcing process, and so equip them to take over the lower posts in the Hierarchy, thus releasing the Senior Masters for other work.

The highest initiation possible for an earth man at that time was the third initiation, and among the first group to reach that achievement were the Christ and the Buddha, who have remained at the forefront of our evolution to this day.

Seen from the esoteric standpoint, the gospel story is really the story of initiation, a story presented to humanity again and again, in different ways, long before Christianity. The account of the life of Jesus is the symbolic presentation, dramatically re-enacted for us, of the initiate's journey to perfection.

The first initiation is called the Birth of Christ and is symbolized by the birth of the disciple Jesus at Bethlehem. When the evolutionary energy which we call the Christ Principle or Consciousness is awakened in the human heart (the spiritual heart centre at the right side of the chest: "The wise man's heart is at the right side, the foolish man's at the

left.”), the man or woman becomes ready for preparation to take the first initiation.

It is important to realize that the man or woman is already initiate before he or she stands before the Initiator. The human soul, the first Master, brings its vehicle to the point of initiation through its life experience and meditation. Then the Master (of the Hierarchy) steps in, and by a combination of stimulus, testing and presented service opportunity, prepares the candidate to come before the Hierophant to receive the impact of the energy from the rod of initiation which He wields. The Christ, Maitreya, is the Hierophant at the first and second initiations, the third and higher initiations being taken before the Lord of the World, Sanat Kumara, on Shamballa. “I am the Way, the Truth and the Life.” “No man can know the Father except through me.”

These sayings of the Christ are esoterically true, but they have been interpreted by the Churches, quite wrongly, to mean that Christianity (or more correctly Churchianity) is the only religious path, that only if a man accepts the (man-made) dogmas and doctrines of the Church can he know God. The Christ embodies the Christ Principle on this planet. It is through the manifestation of this Principle that we reorient ourselves and enter the initiatory path. In this sense, He is, indeed, ‘the Way’. Likewise, only when one has stood before the Christ at the first two initiations can one take the third, which opens up for one contact with the Monad, the Spirit, the ‘Father in Heaven’.

The ‘born-again’ Christian groups have an inkling of the truth in that the first initiation is the ‘second birth’ of the Bible; but, of course, this is an experience shared by millions today throughout the world, and not exclusive to the ‘born-again’ Christians.

The first initiation demonstrates control over the physical body, in particular over the tiny devic (or elemental) lives which make up the bodies of man. The second initiation demonstrates control over the astral-emotional body or elemental lives which make up that vehicle. This is called the Baptism initiation and is symbolized for us by the baptism of Jesus at Jordan.

The third — the first true soul initiation — is called the Transfiguration and is symbolized by the transfiguration of Jesus on the mount. It demonstrates control over the mental elemental and mental body and brings about Monadic contact and energy for the first time: “The Jewel in the Heart of the Lotus.”

Jesus entered the world as a third-degree initiate and so simply symbolized these three stages of growth for us. He *had* to undergo the fourth initiation and did so in full physical fact for our sake to dramatize, symbolically, the experience of renunciation. In the West this initiation is known as the Crucifixion; in the East it is called the Great Renunciation, when all is renounced — position, family, even life itself if necessary — for the higher, spiritual life.

Resurrection

Then follows, and this is the core of the Christian gospel story, the fifth initiation, the Resurrection, symbolized by the resurrection of the body of Jesus after the crucifixion. Each initiation attracts to the bodies of the initiate matter of sub-atomic particles — literally light. By the fourth initiation the bodies of the initiate are three-quarters sub-atomic or light. This process is completed at the fifth or resurrection initiation, when the initiate stands free from the pull of matter for ever, a perfected Master. The evolutionary goal has been achieved and the Master has finished his life experience on this planet. His choice to remain on this earth and so serve the Plan of our Planetary Logos is His alone.

There are higher initiations which call the Master to further effort. The Ascension, symbolized by the ascension of the Christ after His appearance before the disciples in the resurrected body of Jesus, marks the sixth initiatory experience and confers cosmic consciousness and total immortality of the body to the ascended Master.

Seen in this way, the gospel story holds before humanity the promise of divinity, a divinity realized not alone by one extraordinary man — the Son of God — but a divinity attainable by all who make the necessary effort to expand their consciousness to include the spiritual levels; a divinity achieved, too, by a scientific process, of which the Christ and His Masters are the custodians — the process of initiation.

Avatars down the ages

by Felicity Eliot

The successive revelation to humanity of new aspects of reality has taken place throughout history and continues to do so, as the emergence of Maitreya, the Christ, demonstrates. In the West our

knowledge is more or less confined to Christianity, but buried in most ancient myths and legends and then later in holy scriptures there are preserved records of the lives, presence and teachings of other, earlier Teachers or Avatars. Our focus on the achievements of Jesus in Palestine frequently blinds us to, or at least dims our appreciation of, the contribution of other Avatars and other faiths. This blinkered view of the unfoldment of humanity's evolution makes the acceptance of the appearance of yet another Teacher difficult for many Westerners. Each Avatar has brought some teaching which, correctly apprehended and gradually applied by humanity, expands our understanding and is the next step forward in our development.

Hercules

One of the first such Teachers appeared so far back in time that it is impossible to say when he lived, but ancient legend carries the memory of His achievements: Hercules, a "hero-teacher", portrayed "through the form of a pictorial and world drama (symbolic in nature) the concept of a great objective, only to be reached as the result of struggle and difficulty." (Alice Bailey, *The Reappearance of the Christ*, Lucis Press.) He presented to humanity the concept of tests and trials on the path back to the Father, the journey of evolution itself, epitomized and preserved in the Twelve Labours of Hercules. These are the tests all are subjected to prior to each initiation.

Vyasa was another great Avatar who brought to humanity the message that death is not the end. The impact of such an apparently simple concept was enormous since it meant that the possibility now existed for identification with a higher immortal self rather than with the physical-plane life only.

There were many other lesser Teachers between the time of Vyasa and the Buddha, but the Buddha was a major Teacher who came to the East bringing enlightenment, the answers to the many questions which plague and puzzle humanity about its own existence. He came "to lay the foundation for a more enlightened approach to life, giving the teaching which would open the door to the work of the Christ who would, He knew, follow in His steps." (Alice Bailey, *The Reappearance of the Christ*). By giving out the Four Noble Truths He answered man's question 'why?' He taught that man's suffering was of his own making, and that the focusing of desire on the material and the

ephemeral caused all despair, hatred and competition, and was why “man found himself living in the realm of death — the realm of physical living...” His life, example and teachings prepared the way for the Christ. Coming approximately 500 years before the Christ, the Buddha was a manifestation of the Wisdom aspect of God, just as the Christ is the embodiment of the Love aspect. These two great Avatars continue to work together, the Buddha aiding and supporting Maitreya, the Christ, in His present mission to the world.

It is interesting to note that He who is known as the Buddha worked through His disciple, the Prince Gautama, in a way similar to that in which Maitreya, holder of the office of the Christ, overshadowed the disciple Jesus, who acted as His vehicle in Palestine. The Master DK says (in *The Reappearance of the Christ*) that around about the time of the Christ’s return the Buddha will send two trained disciples to reform Buddhism (this at a time when the Master Jesus will be taking certain initial steps towards reassuming control of His Church.) Buddhism, along with other religions, awaits the coming of another great Teacher — He is known as Maitreya Buddha, the Fifth Buddha in the continuing line of divine revelation.

Sri Krishna and Sankaracharya, two great Avatars, were both previous incarnations of Maitreya. Krishna appeared around 3000 BC and Sankaracharya lived in about 800 BC. Sankaracharya gave “deep instruction upon the nature of the Self” while Sri Krishna, by demonstrating the need to control the astral, emotional nature, opened the door to the second initiation. In Palestine, working through the disciple Jesus, Maitreya, the Christ, completed the work of the Buddha by manifesting the Love aspect of deity.

A comparison of all religions shows their common elements.

“Eventually a new world religion will be inaugurated which will be a fusion and synthesis of the approaches of East and West. The Christ will bring together not simply Christianity and Buddhism, but the concept of God transcendent, outside His creation, and also the concept of God immanent in all creation — in man and all creation.” Both approaches will come together in a new religion based on the Mysteries of Initiation and an informed knowledge of the science of invocation of Deity.

Gautama foresaw Maitreya

“Now in those days, brethren, there shall arise in the world an Exalted One by name Maitreya (the Kindly One) an Arhat, a Fully Enlightened One, endowed with wisdom and righteousness, a Happy One, a World-knower, the Peerless Charioteer of men to be tamed, a Teacher of the devas and mankind, an Exalted One, a Buddha like myself.

He of His own abnormal powers shall realize and make known the world, and the worlds of the devas, with their Maras, their Brahmas, the host of recluses and brahmins, of devas and mankind alike, even as I do now. He shall proclaim the Norm, lovely in its beginning, lovely in its middle, and lovely in the end thereof. He shall make known the wholly perfect life of righteousness in all its purity, both in the spirit and in the letter of it, even as I do now. He shall lead an Order of Brethren numbering many thousands, even as I do now lead an order of Brethren numbering many hundreds.”

(Gautama the Buddha in Digha Nikaya)

The Great Invocation

From the point of Light within the Mind of God
Let light stream forth into the minds of men.
Let Light descend on Earth.
From the point of Love within the Heart of God
Let love stream forth into the hearts of men.
May Christ return to Earth.
From the centre where the Will of God is known
Let purpose guide the little wills of men —
The purpose which the Masters know and serve.
From the centre which we call the race of men
Let the Plan of Love and Light work out.
And may it seal the door where evil dwells.
Let Light and Love and Power restore the Plan on Earth.

The Great Invocation, used by the Christ for the first time in June 1945, was released by Him to humanity to enable man himself to invoke the energies which would change our world, and make possible the return of the Christ and Hierarchy. This is not the form of it used by

the Christ. He uses an ancient formula, seven mystic phrases long, in an ancient sacerdotal tongue. It has been translated (by Hierarchy) into terms which we can use and understand, and, translated into many languages, is used today in every country in the world.

It can be made even more potent. Used in triangular formation it becomes very potent. If you wish to work this way, arrange with two friends to use the Invocation, aloud, daily. You need not be in the same town, or country, or say it at the same time of day. Simply say it when convenient for each one, and, linking-up mentally with the two other members, visualize a triangle of white light circulating above your heads and see it linked to a network of such triangles, covering the world.

The Prayer for the New Age

I am the creator of the universe.

I am the Father and Mother of the universe.

Everything came from Me.

Everything shall return to Me.

Mind, spirit and body are My temples,
for the Self to realize in them

My Supreme Being and Becoming.

In September 1988, *Share International* printed *The Prayer for the New Age*, received by us from Maitreya's associate.

The most appropriate and potent way to use the new Prayer for humanity in the New Age is to say or think the words with the focused will, the attention at the ajna centre between the eyebrows. It is an affirmation, and all such prayers or mantrams depend for their effect on the application of the focused will (what the Master DK calls the 'fixed intention'). On the whole, people do not understand this. For example, the Lord's Prayer or the Great Invocation are often said like a benediction. For such prayers to be truly invocatory, you have to bring the will to bear — reflecting precise understanding of the concepts.

When the mind grasps the meaning of the concepts, and simultaneously the will is brought to bear, then those concepts will be activated, the mantram will work. The Prayer for the New Age is a great mantram or affirmation. It represents the concept of the Self as God, as the creator

of all that exists. If this prayer is said seriously every day, there will grow inside you a realization of your true self.

Transmission meditation

All over the world, several times a week, groups of people gather regularly to sit for several hours in silence — they are transmitting spiritual energies directed to them and through them by the Spiritual Hierarchy.

Everything is energy, there is nothing but energy. The Masters and the Christ, *Their* Master, are the custodians of all the energies entering this planet. The Hierarchy works with them, balancing them and sending them into the world, thus advancing humanity's evolution since it is under the stimulus of these energies that all life evolves.

Mankind stands at the half-way point between the higher, spiritual kingdom and the less evolved animal, vegetable and mineral kingdoms. Man's true role is to act as a clearing-house for energies from the higher to the lower kingdoms. The Masters stand in the same relation to us as we do to the kingdoms below us. We all, whether consciously or not, transmit energy at some level. Benjamin Creme has for years encouraged the setting up of Transmission groups wherever he has lectured. There are now approximately 700 such groups working in this way, co-operating with the Masters and aiding the evolution of all life on the planet. As an act of service and a form of meditation it is simple and effective. "I know of no other means of service to the world of such potency, such value, such importance which is so clearly along the line of evolution of the Plan," says Creme. A spin-off is its enormous benefit to those willing to act as channels for the energies. Members of Transmission groups develop rapidly through the effect of the energies they absorb and transmit.

The transmission of energies, we must make clear, was not started through the agency of Benjamin Creme. The Masters (and Their predecessors) have been engaged for millions of years in transmitting the energies through groups in the world. By 'group' is meant humanity itself and/or smaller groups — Jews, Hindus, Christians etc. All acts of worship, in temple, church or wherever, have always been, at the same time, transmissions of energy from Hierarchy, at some level or potency,

whether the celebrants were aware of this or not.

Transmission — a Meditation for the New Age by Benjamin Creme
*provides detailed information about every aspect of the work of
Transmission Meditation.*

666 — and other misunderstandings

by Peter Liefhebber

Within religious groups there are many views as to how and when their awaited teacher will appear. Ideas vary from the extremely concrete to the largely abstract. One Buddhist sect, for example, holds strictly to the literal meaning of an ancient text given out, as legend has it, by Gautama Buddha. This text would have Him say of His successor, Maitreya Buddha, that He would come when girls were 500 years of age when they reached puberty (!).

Many Hindus believe that the new divine incarnation will manifest himself as the god Kalki, seated on a white horse. Orthodox Muslims cite texts which state that the Imam Mahdi will appear in a mosque in Damascus where, during morning prayers, He will say: “I have come, give me clothes.” For fundamentalist Christians it is unthinkable that the Christ could return in any other way than on a cloud at the end of the world. To all such groups, any suggestion that these prophecies are symbolic, and possibly even distorted, is unacceptable.

An example is the biblical statement that the timing of the Christ’s return is known to no one, not even to the Christ Himself. This is a frequent argument against the possibility that anyone could know in advance — and that therefore Benjamin Creme’s information should be disregarded.

But this attitude takes no account of the fact that what was true 2,000 years ago need not necessarily pertain for ever. For during 2,000 years not only the Christ but *all* the Masters and some at least of Their disciples have come into this knowledge: in June 1945 the Christ was able to announce not only His intention to return but also the approximate date of that event.

A thief in the night

Likewise, His coming does not contradict the other much quoted statement that He would come “like a thief in the night” (thieves seldom announce themselves with fanfares, however, as is expected of the Christ). How many, after all, realized that in July 1977 He took His place in the world?

Christians, in an effort to back up their objection to the claim that Maitreya is the Christ, invariably maintain, from their interpretation of *Revelation*, that destruction must precede His coming. But have we not already experienced disaster in excess? What do they make of the world wars, of the earthquakes, which this century have taken their toll of millions of lives, of the scourge of famine which every two seconds claims the life of a child? Is that not disaster enough?

If possible, emotions run even higher when the subject of the ‘anti-christ’ is broached. St John’s *Book of Revelation* serves as the principal source for the many theories regarding this concept. The number 666, referred to as the number of ‘the beast’, has been juggled with thousands of times by amateur numerologists and declared applicable, simultaneously, not only to Maitreya but also to Stalin, Hitler, Brezhnev, Nixon and Ronald Reagan, among others. Even today, there are dogged supporters for a very ingenious doomsday scenario in which the 10 countries of the European Community feature as the ‘ten horns’ of ‘the beast’. This notion, mentioned by the American evangelist Hal Lindsay, among others, may need some adaptation, now that Spain and Portugal have joined the Community, bringing the total to 12.

Nero

Against those who adhere to literal interpretations such arguments are as ineffective as scientific explanations about the real meaning of ‘666’. In an interview with the German author Peter Andreas, the scientist Prof. G. Quispel expresses his amazement that the demonstrably wrong ideas on this subject have not been abandoned: “I am constantly astonished to see that people still do not appear to know what has been recognized for one and a half centuries: that ‘the beast’ from the Apocalypse refers to none other than the Caesar, Nero. Only the later Christian church, in the time of Constantine (325AD), put the Apocalypse into a future, historical time-frame.” (From: *Was Morgen wahr sein kann*, Econ Verlag.)

The esoteric understanding of the anti-christ is quite different from the orthodox belief. From this perspective, the anti-christ is not a person, but an energy — the destructive aspect of Divine Will (in the Hindu tradition: Shiva). This power manifests at times of transition from one age to the next, in the destruction of old forms and structures to clear the way for the creative, building forces of the Christ. In this sense the ‘anti-christ’ does indeed precede the Christ.

This destructive energy was embodied most potently in the war from 1914-1945, mainly by the leaders of Nazi Germany — Hitler and six of his closest associates. With the defeat of the Axis powers, the forces of evil of the entire planet, working through them, were defeated (but not annihilated). The forces of darkness are now relegated to their own domain: the upholding of the matter aspect of the planet. This is symbolically presented in the *Book of Revelation* as the chaining up of “the beast” for “a time and half a time”, which refers to the age of Aquarius and half of the following age, that of Capricorn. Then, in a final world war, which will be fought out on mental planes, the forces of materiality will be entirely destroyed.

The teachings of Maitreya about the need for sharing and for economic reform arouse, too, some opposition within Christian circles. “Isn’t that communism?” is a frequently heard question.

Fortunately, the majority of Christians and followers of other religions think differently. For them, *sharing* is not a threat but a longed-for ideal, just as for Jesus and the early Church it was an ideal to be strived for. In Matthew 25:31-46 Jesus states by what criteria a life can be judged to have been correctly lived: feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, relieving the thirsty, helping the sick and imprisoned — these to Jesus were signs of a life pleasing to God. “Verily, I say unto you, in as much as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.”

Looking at the *Acts of the Apostles* it is obvious that the early Christian community took this lesson to heart and practised the principle of sharing. “And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul: neither said of any of them that aught of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things in common... Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands and houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold and laid them down at the Apostles’ feet; and distribution was made unto every man according to his need.” Today

too, “distribution according to need” is the basis upon which Maitreya the Christ recommends we remake our world.

Message Extracts:

“My children, My friends, I have come more quickly, perhaps, than you expected. But there is much to do, much that needs changing in the world. Many hunger and die, many suffer needlessly. I come to change all that; to show you the way forward — into a simpler, saner, happier life — together. No longer man against man, nation against nation, but together, as brothers, shall we go forth into the New Country.”

Maitreya, Message No. 1, 6 September 1977

“Many there are throughout the world who call Me, beg for My return. I answer their pleas. Many more are hungry and perish needlessly, for want of the food which lies rotting in the storehouses of the world. Many need My help in other ways: as Teacher, Protector; as Friend and Guide. It is as all of these I come. To lead men, if they will accept Me, into the New Time, the New Country, the glorious future which awaits humanity in this coming Age; for all of this I come.”

Maitreya, Message No. 2, 15 September 1977

“Throughout the world there are men, women and little children who have not even the essentials to stay alive; they crowd the cities of many of the poorest countries in the world. This crime fills Me with shame. My brothers, how can you watch these people die before your eyes and call yourselves men? My Plan is to save these, My little ones, from certain starvation and needless death.

But the success of My Mission depends on you: you must make the choice — whether you share and learn to live peacefully as True Men, or perish utterly.

My Heart tells Me your answer, your choice, and is glad.”

Maitreya, Message No. 11, 5 January 1978

“My body of workers will show the world that the problems of Mankind can be solved; through the process of sharing and just redistribution the needs of all can be met. This growing group will show men that there is but little need for the suffering of so many, for

the hunger, disease and anguish which beset mankind. My Plan is to take you on a journey into a New Country, a new approach to living in which all men can share. Let Me lead you, let Me show you the way, let Me lift you upwards into the Light of a new Truth."

Maitreya, Message No. 26, 18 April 1978

"When you see Me you will know why I have come, for I shall appeal to you in these terms: Save My little ones; feed your brothers. Remember that Mankind is One, children of the One Father. Make over, in trust, the goods of the Earth to all who are in need. Do this now and save the world."

Maitreya, Message No. 31, 30 May 1978

"I rely on all those with a knowledge of your brothers's needs, a sympathy for the sufferings of so many and a will to change all that. May you be among those upon whom I may call, that together we can usher in a new and better world."

Maitreya, Message No. 46, 10 October 1978

"How can you be content with the modes within which you now live, when millions starve and die in squalor; when the rich parade their wealth before the poor; when each man is his neighbour's enemy; when no man trusts his brother? For how long must you live thus, My friends? For how long can you support this degradation?"

Maitreya, Message No. 81, 12 September 1979

Reincarnation and karma in the Bible

by Jeanine Miller

Generally speaking people are unaware that there are definite references in the New Testament that unequivocally imply reincarnation. In fact many ask why, if the subject of reincarnation is so important — from the religious point of view, there is so little mention of it in the Bible. One obvious answer is that the reality of reincarnation, at least in the New Testament, was simply taken for granted, just as we take for granted that a healthy tree which has lost

its leaves for the winter will get a new crown of leaves in the following spring. Let us examine the evidence which leads to this conclusion. The first sign of a 'taking for granted' of the doctrine is found in Matthew, 11:13-14; 16:13. Jesus is asking his disciples: "Whom do men say that I, the son of man, am?" (Matt. 16:13) and the disciples answer "Some say that thou art John the Baptist, some Elias and others Jeremias, or one of the prophets." How could Jesus be thought to be any of these except in a past life? Elias and Jeremias lived centuries before. As for John the Baptist, since he had recently been put to death, there could not have been a reincarnation, but it seems that some people thought that his spirit could have inspired Jesus. If people could speak in this way they obviously took the doctrine for granted. That Jesus is actually asking the question shows he is aware of the doctrine and considers it valid. Jesus himself tells his disciples who John the Baptist really was in the past: "For all prophets and the law prophesied until John. And if ye will receive it, this is Elias which was for to come. He that hath ears to hear let him hear." (Matt. 11:13-14). So Elias,

There is here no equivocation, no polemic: the words are from the Master himself. As for his past identity, Jesus is not interested in discussing it. He was far more interested in finding out what his disciples thought: "Whom do ye say that I am?" (Matt. 16:15). And the answer of Simon that Jesus is the Christ, the son of the Living God, and that nothing else matters, pleases Christ who immediately makes Simon Peter the corner-stone of his church. The point is, it does not matter what we have been in the past, and trying to recover our past identities represents an inappropriate clinging to the personality. The doctrine of reincarnation is only important at the personality level in so far as it teaches us that we are given many opportunities on this earth to perfect ourselves and work out our salvation. Over-emphasis on past lives has serious drawbacks. It may encourage sloth: "I'll make an effort in the next life." On the other hand it might cause personality attachment, "I was Julius Caesar" or "Cleopatra", according to predilection. This merely bolsters the ego and is thus detrimental to the

spiritual life which requires the ultimate *elimination* of ego-centredness.

Who sins?

The third reference comes as a question concerning a blind man. The disciples ask Jesus: “Who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?” (John 9:2-3). How could a man sin before he was born? Unless the sin was committed in another life. The apostles are not asking what *kind* of sin resulted in blindness, but *who* sinned, taking for granted that the act of sinning itself brought about this dire result. Furthermore, the sin could have been committed either by the man in a previous existence, or by his parents. This implies both that the sins of the parents are visited upon the children, which is a biblical doctrine, and that the soul exists and therefore pays for the transgressions of previous lives. Jesus does not rebuff the apostles for asking such a question. If the doctrine had been alien to his mind, he would have told them that they were talking nonsense. He simply takes a different attitude. His answer “Neither hath this man sinned nor his parents, but that the works of God should be made manifest in him” (John 9:3) implies that the doctrine of karma (and therefore its corollary, reincarnation) is not always understood rightly and that the calamities that befall humans should not necessarily be laid at its door. Superficially we might take the meaning “that the works of God should be made manifest” as referring to His own healing ministry; that it can be shown that he, as God incarnate, can heal all, even blindness from birth. But I would tend to think that his answer has several levels of much deeper meaning, one possibly being that the man’s blindness (if we take it as a literal physical blindness) was not brought about by sin but by a deliberate choice by the soul for a certain crucial experience necessary for its development.

Crude palliative

That the doctrine of karma (and reincarnation) is all too often used as a crude palliative to resolve problems that appear unresolvable may have been understood to some extent in biblical times, even as it is nowadays in certain cultures and communities. This may be gathered from Leviticus where we find the following:

“And if a man cause a blemish in his neighbour, as he hath done, so shall it be done to him. Breach for breach, eye for eye, tooth for tooth;

as he hath caused a blemish in a man, so shall it be done to him again.” (Lev. 24:19-20; cf. Ex. 21:24, Deut. 19:21).

In this Jewish expression of the law there seems to be no room for the ‘transformation’ of the man, the change of heart and mind that would automatically bring about a different reaction. Jesus seems to have tried to counteract this notion of an inexorable law that leaves no room for human change of attitude in his “new commandment” “that ye love one another”. This commandment superseded all the others and is the law of laws which conveys compassion, forgiveness and grace, and implies the possibility of transformation.

With regard to karma, an interesting passage is found in Luke concerning the “Galileans whose blood Pilate has shed in the midst of their sacrifices” (Luke 13:1). In his commentary, Jesus says: “Suppose ye that these Galileans were sinners above all the Galileans because they suffered such things? I tell you nay; but except ye repent ye shall all likewise perish.” (Luke 13:2-3).

The implication is that calamity does not occur to some because they have sinned more than others, but that all of us have wrong attitudes and wrong attitudes lead us into misfortunes of one kind or another. To change one’s attitude, to transform one’s self, is the whole purpose of the many parables by which Jesus taught his disciples. The important point of the gospels’ teachings is the transformation of the inner man, the psychological man. In its esoteric sense Jesus’ remark to Nicodemus “Thou must be born again” cannot be interpreted as referring to reincarnation, but to that inner transformation of man, equivalent to a new birth.

The work of the Christ

by Benjamin Creme

*The decision to return to full physical plane work and living was not, we can be sure, lightly or easily taken by the Christ. The Master DK, in **The Reappearance of the Christ** through Alice A. Bailey, tells us that it took nine years — from June 1936 to June 1945 — for the decision to be made. The Hierarchy is still working in the state of tension engendered by that momentous decision which culminated in His entry into the modern world on 19 July 1977.*

His decision to reappear had profound occult repercussions: as a result of it, He was granted the right to use — for the first time — the great mantram or prayer known as the Great Invocation, and to give it out to humanity. Not a day has passed since June 1945 without His sounding it forth for the benefit of the world. It is hoped that one day this prayer or invocation will become the world prayer, sounded alike by all peoples, and a potent keynote of the New World Religion which will be one of the Christ's major tasks to inaugurate — when we have set to rights the world.

Spirit of Peace

His decision led, also, to His becoming the recipient and channel of certain great divine energies which, in His work for humanity in this new age, will enhance and potentize all He does. The Spirit of Peace or Equilibrium overshadowed Him in a way very similar to that whereby He overshadowed the disciple Jesus in Palestine. Working closely with the Law of Action and Reaction, the effect of this Cosmic Entity's work through Maitreya will be to produce a reaction to the present chaotic and violent conditions and to usher in an era of peace and emotional calm commensurate to the hatred and violence today.

The Christ Consciousness

He became the embodiment, in an altogether new and most potent way, of the energy that we call the Christ Principle or Christ Consciousness — the energy of evolution per se. Flowing from Him into the world this energy has reoriented humanity to the spiritual (not necessarily religious) life, prepared it to recognize and follow Him now and to accept the principle of sharing. Millions are responding to this potent energy today, and as it awakens them to the spiritual basis of life one of the Christ's modes of appearance is fulfilled — in the hearts of men.

Avatar of Synthesis

A great cosmic Being, the Avatar of Synthesis, entered, through the Christ, our planetary life. He embodies the energies of Will, Love and Intelligence plus another energy for which we have as yet no name. This Entity can come only as low as the mental plane and from that level He pours His fourfold energy through the Christ, and thus into the world. Together with the Buddha, who brings in the Wisdom energy from cosmic levels, these great Beings form a triangle whose energies

the Christ channels to us. In this coming time He will be known as the Point within the Triangle. The Will of the Avatar, His synthesizing force, the Love of the Spirit of Peace or Equilibrium and the Wisdom of the Buddha, focused through the Christ, will transform and are now transforming this world. Thus one of the major works of the Christ, as the transmitter of energies, will proceed.

The Water of Life

“I come that men may have life and that life more abundantly.”

As the dispenser of the ‘Water of Life of Aquarius’ Maitreya will perform one of His major tasks in the new time ahead. As He so eloquently puts it in Message No. 42:

“Many times have you heard Me say that My coming means change. Specifically, the greatest change will be in the hearts and minds of men, for My Return among you is a sign that men are ready to receive new life.

That New Life for men do I bring in abundance.

On all the planes this Life will flow, reaching the hearts and souls and bodies of men, bringing them nearer to the Source of Life Itself.

My task will be to channel those Waters of Life through you.

I am the Water Carrier.

I am the Vessel of Truth.

That Truth shall I reveal to you and lift you into your true nature.

I am the river.

Through Me flows the new stream of God-given Life, and this shall I bestow on you. Thus shall we together walk through My Garden, smell the perfume of My Flowers, and know the joy of closeness to God.

My friends, these things are not dreams. All of this will be yours.

My Mission will vouchsafe this to you.”

His is the task to transmit these Waters of Life: as physical life, nourishing the very cells of our bodies; as a new livingness — love and light within our hearts; and as life more abundantly — love, light and power within and above the head of the disciple of the Christ, enabling him to co-operate more fully with the Plan issuing from Shamballa, the ‘Centre where the Will of God is known’.

Nourishing the Little Ones

As the Hierophant at the first two initiations, Maitreya’s work will be to take the masses of humanity into the Kingdom of God — the

Hierarchy — through the portals of initiation. Many stand now on the threshold. One of His most important roles will be as the “Nourisher of the Little Ones”. Who are these “Little Ones”? They are those who have taken the first two initiations and who stand ready for that experience of Transfiguration, the third initiation, which is the first demonstration of true divinity. By the nourishing, the stimulation of their spiritual life, He will bring them, as He so often says in the Messages, to “the feet of God”, “Before the throne”.

Uniting East and West

Contrary to the belief of many Christians that the Christ comes exclusively for them, He comes as the World Teacher, for all humanity. With the help of His Brother the Buddha, He will unite East and West; in particular, the different approaches to God of the East and of the West. Notwithstanding the Christ’s teaching, in Palestine, that God is within, the general approach to God in the West has been to see Him as transcendent, above and beyond His creation, essentially unknowable by that creation, only to be worshipped from afar. The approach of the East, on the other hand, is to see God as immanent, in man and all creation, “closer than hand or foot, closer than the breath”. He will synthesize these two approaches in the New World Religion. The Christ is the great exponent and expression of Love, while the Buddha is the embodiment of Wisdom. In this coming time, the Christ will fuse and blend these two divine energies and answer the call of the East as well as that of the West for succour and guidance. He will be in truth the World Teacher, come to inaugurate the new age of synthesis and brotherhood based on the establishment of right human relations. No Avatar has been so equipped for His task as the Christ now is. Fusing and blending in Himself the energies of Will, Love and Wisdom, overshadowed by the Spirit of Peace or Equilibrium, aided by the Avatar of Synthesis and the Buddha; focusing through Himself the sum total of the energies of the last 2,000 years of Pisces and of the coming potencies of Aquarius, He is a mighty Avatar, equal to His daunting task.

That task is to create harmony out of chaos, awaken humanity to its true nature and destiny, and to guide and inspire the building of the new civilization. He will be with us for the next 2,500 years — the whole of the age of Aquarius. As we come into incarnation time and

time again during that period we will find the Christ, Maitreya, at the centre of our planetary life.

Then His work for humanity will be over and, having trained and prepared His successor, He will go on to higher work on the Way of the Higher Evolution. His path, the Path of Absolute Sonship, will take Him away from this earth, to return, as foretold by H.P. Blavatsky, as the Cosmic Christ, the Cosmic Maitreya, at the end of the last, the seventh, world cycle.

*This article (and the one on the Teachings of the Christ) is a summary of the Teachings on the subject by the Master DK in **The Reappearance of the Christ** by Alice A. Bailey (Lucis Press). Readers are referred to that work for a deeper and more detailed account of the Christ's future work and teachings.*

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

*In the regular feature 'Questions and Answers in **Share International**, Benjamin Creme addresses questions received about the Ageless Wisdom Teachings and the activities of Maitreya and the Masters of Wisdom. For this issue, a selection has been made of questions especially relating to the reappearance of Maitreya the Christ.*

Q. What will Maitreya's initial task be?

A. In the first place, He will be concerned with inspiring humanity to create the conditions in which world peace can be guaranteed. He will show that this requires, above all, the acceptance of the principle of sharing to harmonize the imbalance caused today by the tremendous discrepancies in the living standards of the developed and the developing nations.

His immediate proposal will be to launch a crash programme of aid to save the starving millions in the Third World. Then, over the next few years, the restructuring of society along more just lines will gradually form the basis for a new civilization. He has to inspire humanity to create the new world. His initial task is really one of reconstruction.

Q. In what light will He be seen by the world? In what capacity will He act? Will He and the Masters form some new institution?

A. After Declaration Day He will be seen as the spearhead of all forward-looking progressive movements for change. Eventually, this

will mean total change of all our institutions. Some short time after Declaration Day He will introduce 12 Masters to the world, and some of Them will take certain very high posts. One or two will take Their places at the head of certain governments, in key nations in the world. Another Master will be in charge of a new agency, to be set up within the United Nations, to oversee the redistribution programme. They will act in the most international way, not forming any new named team or separate agency, but They will be leaders of world thought and opinion and, of course, the stimulus behind all ideas in the rebuilding of the world.

Q. Does Maitreya have any particular political bias?

A. No. You will find that the Christ does not align Himself with any political party or stance. He is not a member of any political party. You will see that He speaks for all people, especially the poor, for East and West. The world's problems are not simply party political problems — sharing the resources of the world is a global issue, one for the UN, as a whole, to deal with. He will appeal to the goodwill and compassion in all people everywhere, of whatever party, political persuasion, or none.

Q. Will Maitreya and the Masters form a world government? If so, what role will the Christ play?

A. They will not form a world government. World government will come inevitably as a logical result of the acceptance by humanity that it is One, and that realization will grow from the acceptance of the principle of sharing. It is the basis of all change and progress in this coming time.

The United Nations today forms the nucleus of a future world government. At present, it does not have the power which a world government might need, but only because those powers are not given to it by the major nations — America, Russia and China, for instance. The Security Council stands in the way of a true functioning of the UN Assembly — which is the real basis of a future world government. It must be stressed that world government does not signify a dictatorial, supra-national regime, imposing laws on nations which, willy-nilly, they must obey. It will be the result of a federation of independent states, something like the British Commonwealth or the United States of America. Before the Union, few of the States of America could

conceive of giving up autonomy and sovereignty, a condition which is found quite natural now. By the same token, many of the nations today see no possibility of giving up the sovereignty which one day they will willingly relinquish in the interests of world groupings and world government.

Each country will retain its own language, culture, political system and so on. It is *not* the intention of Hierarchy to attempt to create a one-governmental system throughout the world.

Q. So the political and legal systems will be maintained in all countries?

A. Political forms will be retained according to the customs, tradition, history and ray structure of each nation, only in more perfected forms than now. The world's legal matters, which concern global issues — for instance the exploration of the sea-bed, or space, or mineral deposits in the world and so on — will be governed by international law.

Q. Since Maitreya is the World Teacher does that mean He will be more involved in certain fields of human endeavour than in others?

A. Many people, particularly Christians, see Him as the head of the Christian church but in fact this is not the case; the Master Jesus is the head of the churches. The World Teacher is the stimulus behind a whole range of activities, not only religion. He is as much the stimulus behind the scientific discoveries and the educational concepts which are today engaging men's minds as He is with regard to religious matters.

As many people know, He will inaugurate the New World Religion. This will be one of His tasks — to unite the approaches to God of West and East. This will engage a large part of His energy. He is the recipient and transmitter of a great rainbow of energies from various sources, which stimulate many different facets of our life. One of His major tasks will be the synthesizing of humanity through the energy of the Avatar of Synthesis, the energies of Aquarius and, through galvanizing the United Nations Assembly, bringing together the world, filling it with a sense of its Wholeness. That is a great and continuing task, which will be spread over a good many years. When we have really set the world to rights He will begin to inaugurate the New

World Religion.

Q. You say that the Lord Maitreya was Krishna. Yet Sai Baba seems to intimate that He was Krishna. Can you explain this?

A. I believe that Krishna was a previous manifestation of Maitreya but Sai Baba is also correct (if I may say so) in claiming to be 'Krishna'. It is a question of the level of the energy associated with Krishna, namely, love. Sai Baba is a cosmic Avatar and embodies that energy at a cosmic level while Maitreya, a planetary Avatar, does so at a planetary level. Each is a manifestation of the Love of God. Maitreya's individual consciousness, however, manifested through Krishna by overshadowing (in much the same way as in Palestine through Jesus) while Sai Baba identifies with the cosmic Krishna, or Christ Principle.

Q. Do you think that political leaders will ask for or heed His suggestions?

A. Yes, I do. I think some governments and their leaders will respond immediately. Others perhaps may be slower, but I believe there will be a spontaneous response to His call on Declaration Day and the peoples themselves will form groups, world wide, growing and growing until these groups — demanding justice, freedom, peace, brotherhood and sharing — become the overwhelming majority. It will come from us.

Q. How are we to know for certain that Lord Maitreya is not the 'false Christ'?

A. There is not only one 'false Christ'. There are several well-known teachers who believe themselves, or are believed by their followers, to be the Christ, and from my personal experience alone I know of scores of deluded people who are convinced that they are the Christ. Discrimination and spiritual recognition are the key. I suggest that on the Day of Declaration, by the overshadowing and telepathic rapport which He will establish with all humanity simultaneously, you will have no doubts about His true status. A tree is known by its fruits and it is by His love, wisdom, spiritual potency and work for humanity that you will recognize Maitreya and know Him for what He is.

Q. I wonder if, in this new age, our Christian Bible will be used or will there be something to replace it?

A. Within the Christian churches, the Bible will continue to be used for some time. It is obvious, however, that the presence in the world of the Christ and the Masters — including the Master Jesus — will necessitate a profound reinterpretation of the meanings of that symbolical work. Much will be discarded but much will be found to be relevant when correctly interpreted. It will be the task of the Master Jesus to guide the Christian churches into the light of the new dispensation. Eventually, Maitreya will inaugurate a new world religion based on the esoteric science of initiation.

Q. Why does Maitreya refer only to 'brothers' in His Messages?

A. The fact is, if you read the Messages as a whole, that He does *not* refer only to 'brothers', but quite often to 'brothers and sisters'. But every Message has a very definite rhythm and mantric effect and is pruned of all unnecessary words. One of the striking things about the Messages, to my mind, is precisely their economy of means, the sheerness and austerity of the language and yet density of meaning conveyed so simply.

Q. Was the Christ's true relationship to Jesus known to any of his early disciples?

A. Yes, several of the closest disciples understood the overshadowing process which was used.

Q. What is the role of the Buddha in our planetary Hierarchy? What is His relationship to Maitreya?

A. The Buddha no longer retains a physical vehicle but dwells on the highest centre of our planet, Shamballa, which is in matter of the two highest ethers in the Gobi desert. He acts as the 'Divine Intermediary' between Shamballa and Hierarchy, bringing the Plan from Shamballa to the three Great Lords of Hierarchy (the Christ, Manu, and Lord of Civilization) Who approximate it to the possible and work it out through humanity. He is the brother of Maitreya. They were among the first group of Earth humanity to 'achieve', that is, take initiation, way back in early Atlantean times. They have been at the forefront of humanity ever since. The Buddha is deeply engaged in the process of Maitreya's mission as World Teacher.

Q. You say Maitreya never infringes human free will. But if he communicates with the entire humanity telepathically on the Day of Declaration it will be an infringement of human free will, so that is a contradiction.

A. With respect, there is no contradiction. Maitreya will communicate telepathically on the Day of Declaration only in response to our invitation through the media as our representatives. It has been the lack of such an invitation which has delayed the Day of Declaration since May 1982. It is for this reason also that the Day of Declaration will be preceded by a Conference in London at which all nations will be represented by media and others who have already experienced Maitreya.

Q. When Maitreya overshadows us on the Day of Declaration, will there be a physical sensation?

A. He has said that when His energy, that is, the Christ Principle, flows out, it will be as if He embraces the whole world. People will feel it — even physically. As the energy of the Christ Principle flows through the four levels of the etheric body to the lowest plane — which is just above physical gas — it will be felt on the physical body as a resounding vibration. If you are at all aware of the etheric body, you will experience this as a very powerful physical sensation. Otherwise,

Q. It says in the Bible that Christ will return in a “blaze of Glory”. Where was Maitreya’s blaze of glory that we could all see and recognize?

A. This “blaze of Glory” is, of course, a symbolic term for His spiritual stature recognized by all. This will take place on the Day of Declaration when He overshadows all humanity.

